

WATERY TRUTHS

Class A recycled water is available to those who build or buy properties at Sandhurst Club and Hunt Club Estate.

Listed below are a series of questions and answers that you should discuss with your builder about recycled water installation. These will help you achieve the greatest benefit from this service.

Q1. Is recycled water an option for my new home?

A. Yes if you have purchased land at the Hunt Club or Sandhurst Club.

Q2. Will my house comply with the 5 star standard if I take on recycled water?

A. Yes, you can choose between a rainwater tank, recycled water or solar hot water system to help comply with the standard.

Q3. What are the benefits of choosing recycled water?

- Choosing recycled water provides you with a practical opportunity to do something positive for the environment. Conserving drinking water is important for Victoria's sustainability.
- Lush green gardens can be maintained because Permanent Water Saving Rules do not apply.
- It is cheaper. Comparisons suggest that to supply and install recycled water plumbing for a house is approximately \$1,300 less than both a rainwater tank and solar hot water system.
- Money can be saved on water bills because recycled water is charged at the lowest drinking water tariff.
- Recycled water, just like your drinking water, is available all year round. Therefore it is more reliable than a rainwater tank because it doesn't rely on rainfall.
- Having recycled water installed is more aesthetically pleasing than a rainwater tank, which may take up space in the yard.

Q4. Are the cost savings from choosing recycled water passed on to me?

A. Cost comparisons suggest that recycled water plumbing is cheaper for your builder to supply and install, therefore your builder should pass these savings on to you in the price of your new home.

Q5. Who is responsible for the plumbing, South East Water or the builder?

A. The builder's plumber will be responsible for appropriate connection to the property service and installing the household's recycled water plumbing, just as for drinking water.

Q6. Who ensures that the recycled water plumbing is installed correctly?

A. When you decide to take on recycled water your builder makes an application to South East Water to connect just as for drinking water. Then your plumbing will be checked by the Plumbing Industry Commission at three stages of the fitting to ensure that it is properly installed for recycled water.

Q7. How will recycled water plumbing look?

A. Recycled water pipes and fittings look very similar to your normal plumbing fittings however they are purple to avoid confusion with drinking water taps.

Note: The colour of recycled water taps must not be changed.

Q8. To where will recycled water be plumbed?

A. Because recycled water can only be used for outdoor purposes, in particular garden watering and car washing as well as toilet flushing*, your builder must plumb your toilet for recycled water and should install a purple tap in the back garden. South East Water will install a front tap adjoining the meter. The taps should be signed "Recycled water do not drink". You may choose to also have drinking water taps in your garden for non recycled water uses.

**See South East Water fact sheet "Home and Hosed" for allowable uses.*



Recycled water is:

- Wastewater treated to a very high standard (Class A)
- Suitable for flushing toilets and outdoor use
- Providing a sustainable future for Victoria

*tap
into
it.*