

**SPECIAL WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENTS**

This policy applies to applications within a Special Water Supply Catchment.

**Policy Basis**

Moorabool Shire contains extensive proclaimed water catchments that supply water for the residents of the Shire and surrounding areas. The quantity and quality of the Shire's water resources are a critical issue and the Shire is committed to sustainable management in cooperation with the State's water supply and catchment management authorities. Inappropriate land use, subdivision, and development within Special Water Supply Catchment areas will compromise the ability to supply water of appropriate quality. In particular it critical that appropriate effluent disposal systems are used.

**Objectives**

- To protect the quality and quantity of water produced within proclaimed water catchments.
- To provide for the appropriate use and development of land within proclaimed water catchments.

**Policy**

It is policy to:

- Strongly discourage the subdivision of the land in proclaimed water catchment areas.
- Discourage land use and development that has the potential to reduce the quality or quantity of water produced.
- Require a report from a qualified geotechnical engineer demonstrating that the land is capable of absorbing sewage and sullage effluent in accordance with the Septic Tanks Code of Practice.
- Require septic tanks and effluent lines to be at least 100m from a waterway, wetland or upstream from a dam.
- Allow the use of high technology packaged treatment plants within 100m of a waterway subject to satisfactory evidence being provided that the development and treatment plant:
  - cannot be located outside this area;
  - will not compromise water quality within the proclaimed water catchment area; and
  - will comply with the Septic Tanks Code of Practice and State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria).