



## Frankston City Council **FACT SHEET**

### **DOMESTIC RAIN WATER TANKS – BUILDING REGULATORY INFORMATION.**

With Victoria's weather patterns, rain water tanks are becoming increasingly popular as the demand for water becomes greater. Should you wish to install a water tank the following guidelines / requirements should be considered:

#### **Permits**

- Town Planning - Where a rain water tank exceeds 4500 litres, comments should be obtained from Council's Town Planning Department contactable on (03) 9784 1733;
- Building – Domestic rainwater tanks do not require a Building Permit as they are not classified as a building unless the tank is contained within, or on, a proposed building or supported by an existing building. In which case a Building Permit would be required

#### **Drainage**

- Rainwater tanks allow for the storage of some of the stormwater from the roofed area of your house and/or outbuildings. However, the tank must be fitted with an overflow pipe, of the same diameter as the inlet pipe, which must be connected to a stormwater drainage system that discharges to a legal point of discharge. For further information on the legal point of discharge please contact Council's Infrastructure Department on (03) 9784 1884.

#### **General**

- Installation of the rainwater tank should be completed in strict compliance with the manufactures specifications and recommendations.
- The rainwater tanks must be installed by a licensed plumber.
- Rainwater storage tanks are permitted to project into the minimum setback from a side boundary, required by Building Regulation 414, by 500mm. This means that tanks up to 3.6m in height must be a minimum of 500mm from a side boundary. Tanks in excess of 3.6m in height will need to be setback at a distance greater than 500mm from a side boundary, depending on the site.
- Approval from the relevant authority must be obtained should the proposed water tank be constructed over an easement.
- Rainwater collected by tanks is not suitable for drinking as it may have contaminants from collection surfaces.

#### **Further Information**

For further information on rainwater tank requirements, rebates, etc. Please use the web links and telephone numbers provided below:

- South East Water – [www.southeastwater.com.au](http://www.southeastwater.com.au) – Ph: 1800 637 064
- Building Commission – [www.buildingcommission.com.au](http://www.buildingcommission.com.au) (03) 9285 6400.

The above information is provided as a guide only.