

# DOMESTIC RAINWATER TANKS – REGULATORY INFORMATION



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

## **Permits**

- Town Planning – If the rainwater tank exceeds 4,500 litres, or is proposed to be located in an area covered by a Heritage Overlay or where it could impact on/ require the removal of vegetation, comments should first be obtained from Council's Statutory Planning Department on phone 1300 322 322.
- Building – Domestic rainwater tanks do not require a Building Permit as they are not classified as a building. However, if the tank is contained within, or on, a proposed building or supported by an existing building a Building Permit will 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 contact Council's Engineering Services Department on 1300 322 322.

## **General**

- Installation of the rainwater tank should be completed in strict compliance with the manufacturer's specifications and recommendations.
- The rainwater tank 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 rainwater tank be constructed over an easement.

## **Further Information**

For further information on rainwater tank requirements please contact:

- Frankston City Council, [frankston.vic.gov.au](http://frankston.vic.gov.au), phone 1300 322 322
- South East Water, [southeastwater.com.au](http://southeastwater.com.au), phone 13 18 51
- Victorian Building Authority, [vba.vic.gov.au](http://vba.vic.gov.au), phone 1300 815 127