

# ON-SITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

## FACT SHEET

### What is an On-site Sewage Management System (OSMS)?

On-site sewage management systems (which include septic tank systems, aerated waste treatment systems, composting systems, greywater irrigation systems, etc.) treat wastewater generated from a home or business. The end product, which is referred to as effluent, is then gravity-fed or pumped to a land application area or irrigation system (effluent disposal area) which typically involves surface or subsurface application. In some instances a holding tank is utilised which is later pumped out and collected by tanker however this method is avoided where possible due to the risks and high cost associated with it.

As depicted on the reverse of this factsheet, appropriate buffer distances are required between effluent disposal areas and site features such as dwellings, property boundaries and waterways. These buffer distances vary depending on the type of system as outlined in Table 9 of Liverpool Council DCP, Part 1, Section 15 – On Site Sewage Disposal.

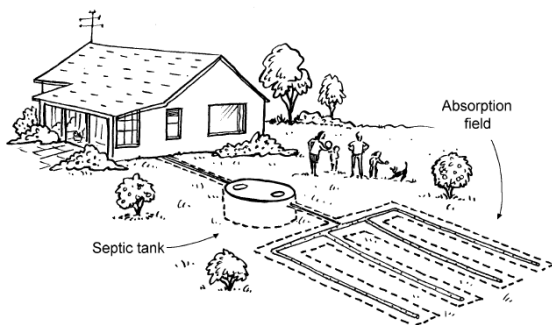


Image courtesy of the NSW Department of Local Government

### Where are OSMS required?

OSMS are required in all areas where a reticulated sewer connection is not available. A map is provided on the reverse of this factsheet showing some of the areas where an OSMS may be required within the Liverpool City Council area.

Some of the suburbs shown on the map such as Casula, Cecil Hills, Elizabeth Hills, Horningsea Park, Middleton Grange and Prestons may have reticulated sewer available however not all properties are able to connect. To find out if reticulated sewer is available in your area contact Sydney Water on 13 20 92.

### Installing or replacing an OSMS

To install a new or replace / alter an existing OSMS, an application to Council must be made under Section 68 of the Local Government Act (1993). The application form to install / construct / alter an OSMS as well as up to date information on fees can be found on Councils website [www.liverpool.nsw.gov.au](http://www.liverpool.nsw.gov.au)

When an OSMS installation or alteration is associated with a development application, a separate application must be made for the OSMS. The application form and supporting documentation should be submitted along with the development application to avoid delaying the process.

### Documentation for OSMS Applications

As each property and its associated sub-surface soil profile is unique, all applications for approval to install, construct or alter an OSMS must be supported by a comprehensive wastewater report prepared by a suitably qualified wastewater consultant. This site specific report will take into account the local climate, geology, hydrology, topography and legislative requirements to formulate a plan for the treatment and disposal of wastewater within the property.

An outline of the information a wastewater report should include is provided on the application form to install / construct / alter an OSMS.

### Need a question answered?

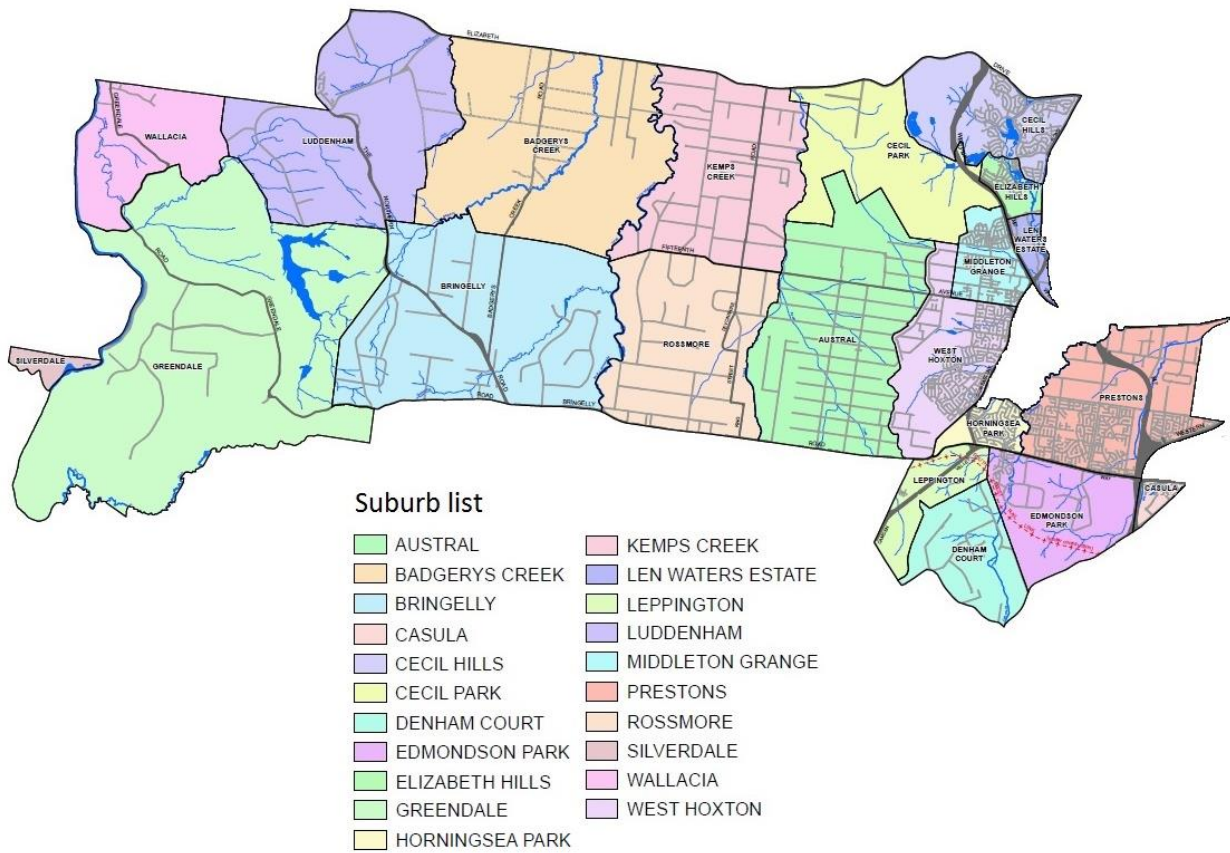
If you have any questions relating to the installation or operation of OSMS please contact Council on 1300 362 170 and ask for an Environmental Health Officer.

The following legislation and guidelines applicable to OSMS may also help with any enquiry you may have.

- The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Liverpool Council DCP, Part 1, Section 15 – On Site Sewage Disposal
- Australian Standard 1574:2012

Environment & Health Protection Guidelines – On-site Sewage Management for Single Households

**Suburbs of Liverpool City Council Area where an On-site Sewage Management System may be required**



**Typical buffer distances required from effluent disposal area with surface spray irrigation**

