

Questions? Email:  
onsitewastewater@  
aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

# On-site Wastewater Systems

## Unitary plan general standards and legislative framework



### Unitary plan general standards for ALL on-site wastewater systems

- The wastewater discharge must not contaminate ground water, surface water, a stormwater drain, a neighbouring property, or cause a public health risk.
- Construction and discharge of the system must not adversely affect any place scheduled as Historic Heritage or in the Sites and Places of Significance to Mana Whenua.
- The site investigation procedures, design, installation and operation of the system and drainage field must be undertaken in accordance with Technical Publication 58 On-site Wastewater Systems: Design and Management Manual 2004 (TP58).

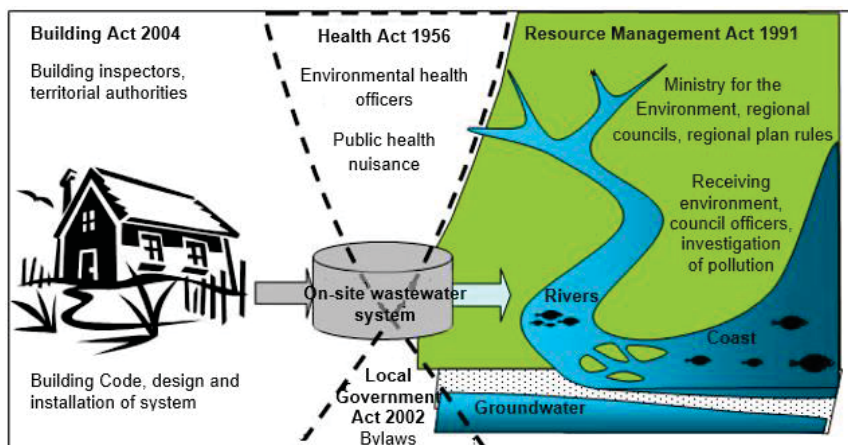
If the system was permitted without a resource consent before the unitary plan, the system must be maintained by a suitably qualified on-site wastewater service provider in accordance with TP58's recommendations, the manufacturer's recommendations or a suitably qualified on-site wastewater service provider's recommendations.

- At a minimum, the system's maintenance must ensure that:
  - ❖ septic tank filters are checked and serviced regularly as recommended by the manufacturer
  - ❖ advanced systems are serviced at least every six months by a suitably qualified on-site wastewater service provider
  - ❖ primary systems (septic tanks) are inspected at least every three years
  - ❖ tanks are pumped out by a suitably qualified on-site wastewater service provider when sludge and scum levels occupy 50 per cent of the tank volume
  - ❖ records of each maintenance action must be retained and made available on site for inspection by Auckland Council.



To see the full rules, search online for 'Unitary Plan E5'

## Legislative framework



Source: Ministry for the Environment, July 2008, Proposed National Environmental Standard for On-site Wastewater Systems

Several pieces of legislation work in tandem to regulate different aspects of on-site wastewater systems. The Building Act 2004, Health Act 1956 and Resource Management Act 1991 provide provisions to cover all aspects of on-site wastewater regulation including design, installation, operation and maintenance.

**Note:** The Auckland Unitary Plan gives effect to the Resource Management Act.