

Servicing the West

Issue 13, Summer 2012



City West Water
LIMITED



Backfill and compaction

There have been numerous incidences of sinking soil in water and sewer trenches in recent months. This has resulted in an increased focus for City West Water on backfill and compaction. It is important that contractors undertake compaction trials of select suitable fill at the commencement of a new project. These trials will help to determine the best way to compact the material so that it conforms to the compaction standard. For more information refer to:

http://www.citywestwater.com.au/documents/MRWA_Backfill_Specification_04-03.1.pdf

This specification is currently under review and a new version will be rolled out this year. More details will be made available in the next Servicing the West.

Accreditation of consultants and contractors

Developers understand the need for consultants and contractors and their key personnel to be accredited to undertake land development design, auditing and construction activity.

City West Water is currently embarking on aligning its own capital works design and construction activities with this process.

This will mean that from mid-2012, only accredited consultants and contractors will be able to tender for and undertake work on City West Water capital works projects. It will also mean that there will be no difference between the requirements for conducting similar works for land development and capital works.

http://www.citywestwater.com.au/our_assets/3259.aspx

There has been some misunderstandings about the definition of "Specialised Work" within this accreditation system. This category is used to ensure that where difficult ground conditions (such as Docklands) and defined high density areas (such as the Melbourne CBD) exist, City West Water has suitably experienced and competent people undertaking the work. It is not intended to control activities such as boring, high traffic areas or critical asset work. For clarification, follow the link http://www.citywestwater.com.au/our_assets/3259.aspx to the Application for Accreditation document.



Recycled water to keep Point Cook ovals green

Sporting grounds and open spaces in Point Cook now have access to recycled water from the nearby Western Treatment Plant after Minister for Water, The Hon. Peter Walsh MP opened the second stage of the project in late 2011.

The fastest growing suburb in Wyndham, Point Cook will receive 172 megalitres of recycled water a year from the Western Treatment Plant.

It is a welcome source of alternative water for the community after water restrictions over several summers prevented local sporting clubs from watering their ovals, leaving them hard to use for sport. Some ovals were left as sandy pits for the entire summer.

Local schools, parks, gardens and nursing homes will also benefit from Stage 2 of the \$2.5 million project. The project is a joint venture between the Department of Sustainability and Environment's Vision for Werribee Plains, Wyndham City Council and City West Water.



Aquifer storage recovery

As City West Water continues to work towards supplying West Werribee with recycled water, it faces a dilemma – what to do with excess recycled water during the winter months when demand is low. If it cannot be stored, it would be released into Port Phillip Bay.

One solution is the use of aquifers to store recycled water hundreds of meters below ground in the Werribee area.

Aquifers are underground layers of rock or sand which can hold water in the spaces between sand particles or pores in the rock. Most aquifers already hold water in these spaces, and if the conditions are suitable, aquifers can be used to store additional water in large volumes for recovery when required.

Trials started in late 2011 and involve recycled water being injected underground and then extracted to test the viability of using the aquifer for storage.

The Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project is funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative.



Featherbrook Reserve, Point Cook before and after the supply of recycled water.



New Melbourne version of the WSA Water Code

After a period of consultation with the water supply design and construction industry and a thorough review, the new MRWA (Melbourne Retail Water Agency) edition of the WSA Water Code is nearing completion. It will be rolled out with communication and teaching sessions soon. It will go live as the primary reference for water supply requirements around the middle of 2012.

