

» recycled water facts

auditing your property



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» Why does council audit properties with recycled water?

As a water utility, council is committed to providing a safe and reliable water network. Our recycled water audit program is key to ensuring properties with dual reticulation are plumbed correctly and are receiving recycled water through the correct outlets.

Regular inspections of all recycled water properties is also a requirement of Council's approval from the NSW Government to supply recycled water to our community.

It also helps give Council and residents confidence in their recycled water supply.

» Audit frequency

Council audits a recycled water property when it's:

1. first built
2. sold;
3. and every five years.

Council's plumbing inspectors audit recycled water properties after construction is complete. This is a requirement and must be completed before a property receives its final occupation certificate.

Council's Water and Wastewater Section then re-audit properties every five years. The purpose of the five-yearly audit is to identify any changes to the property's plumbing, which may have occurred since its last audit.

Lastly, a property with recycled water must be audited before it can be sold. It's the conveyancer and property owners responsibility to liaise with Council to arrange this inspection audit.

Each audit outcome and date is recorded on Council's dual reticulation register and on a sticker located in the property's power box.

» *this property is compliant with Ballina Shire Council's Dual Water Supply Plumbing Policy and is ready to receive recycled water.*

Address _____

Inspector _____

Sign: _____ Date: / /

Example: Recycled water audit sticker

» Do I need to be home and how long will it take?

Yes you will need to be home. We need access to recycled and drinking water outlets, both internal and external.

The audit will only take 30-40 minutes to complete and will require temporarily turning off your water at the meter. This is to check and ensure there are no cross connections.

» Does it cost me anything?

No, unless your are selling your property. Both the initial construction and five-yearly recycled water audit is a service provided by Council and is free.

If you are selling your dual reticulated property it will cost \$235 (financial year 2019/20). For the current inspection cost visit ballina.nsw.gov.au and view Council's current fees and charges.

»» What if there are problems with my plumbing?

The home owner is responsible for fixing any plumbing problems that are identified during the audit.

If Council staff find recycled water is being supplied to any drinking water taps, then we will need to immediately disconnect the recycled water supply.

For other issues Council may need to follow up or re-audit the property to ensure any issues have been corrected.

»» Steps to check for cross connections

Check your home's recycled water connection:

1. Turn off the drinking water supply at your property's meter and rainwater tank pump or valve.
2. Turn on all internal drinking water taps. Taps should run dry.
3. Flush all toilets. Toilets should refill if connected to recycled water supply.
4. Turn on your external taps. Your drinking water tap should run dry. Taps continuing to run are connected to recycled water supply and should be coloured purple and marked with appropriate signs. Turn your drinking water supply back on.

Check your home's drinking water connection:

1. Turn off your recycled water supply at your property's purple meter and rainwater tank pump or valve. Run recycled water supply dry via your purple external taps or toilet flushing.
2. Turn on internal drinking water taps, such as the shower or kitchen sink tap. If these taps do not flow they are connected to the incorrect supply.
3. Turn your recycled water supply back on at your property's purple water meter.

If you encounter problems while completing the check you will need to contact a plumber or call Council on 1300 864 444 for assistance.

For more information about recycled water visit ballinawater.com.au and access Council's series of Recycled Water Factsheets.



Need more info? Visit our water website ballinawater.com.au

T 1300 864 444 E council@ballina.nsw.gov.au

