

Building and Plumbing Newsflash 503

Free training seminars about new plumbing laws

Purpose

To advise of 24 free state-wide training seminars on the notifiable work reforms to Queensland's plumbing laws.

Background

On 1 November 2012, a new category of plumbing and drainage work called 'notifiable work' will start in Queensland heralding the biggest changes to the industry in more than a decade.

Notifiable work will extend the amount of work a plumber or drainer can perform without a local government permit or mandatory inspections. In addition, more work will be allowed to be performed as 'minor work' and will not require a permit or notification to the Plumbing Industry Council (PIC).

Categories of 'notifiable work' will be set out in Schedule 2 of the Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003 and will include most plumbing and drainage work performed in existing buildings including:

- kitchen and bathroom additions and renovations
- installing or replacing hot water heaters including electric, solar or heat pump hot water heaters
- installing fixtures such as toilets, showers and sinks in an existing home
- extending or altering pipe work
- plumbing and drainage work in commercial buildings.

The Plumbing Industry Council (PIC) will hold a series of state-wide training seminars in September and October to help prepare plumbers, drainers and local governments for the new reforms. Details are included in this newsflash.

Legislation

Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002

Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003

Requirements

Under the new laws, when a licensee performs notifiable work they must notify the PIC within 10 business days by lodging a Form 4—Notifiable Work. Forms may be lodged with the PIC either electronically for a fee of \$25 per form or manually for a fee of \$35 per form. A copy of the Form 4 must be given to the owner or occupier.

Licensees must ensure that all work is performed in accordance with relevant legislation, codes and standards. The PIC and local governments will work together to undertake audit programs. PIC investigators will audit the lodgement of forms and investigate complaints about plumbing work that is defective, noncompliant or has been performed by an unlicensed person. Local governments may undertake audit programs to ensure that notifiable work is performed to an appropriate standard.

Training seminars

The training seminars will provide details about:

- the new categories of plumbing and drainage work
- the notifiable work form lodgement process
- audit programs and offences and penalties
- the creation of ‘top-up’ accounts
- the role of local governments.

To register, email roadshows@publicworks.qld.gov.au with your name and the date and location of the seminar you will be attending.

For more information about notifiable work, call the Plumbing Industry Council Notifiable Work Hotline on 1800 264 585.

Dates and locations

Date	Location	Venue	Time
Monday 24 September	Bundaberg	Supper Room, Bundaberg Civic Centre, 190 Bourbong Street, Bundaberg	4 pm
Tuesday 25 September	Hervey Bay	Hervey Bay Community Centre, 22 Charles Street, Hervey Bay	4 pm
Wednesday 26 September	Redland Bay	Reece Plumbing Store, 1/678 German Church Road, Redland Bay	4 pm
Thursday 27 September	Esk	Somerset Regional Council Library, 2 Redbank Street, Esk	4 pm
Thursday 27 September	Mooloolaba	TAFE Sunshine Coast Mooloolaba, 34 Lady Musgrave Drive, Mooloolaba	4 pm
Thursday 27 September	Cairns	K Block Theatre, Tropical North Queensland TAFE Campus, Eureka Street, Cairns	4 pm

Date	Location	Venue	Time
Tuesday 2 October	Strathpine	Tom Petrie Room, Strathpine Community Centre, 199 Gympie Road, Strathpine	4 pm
Tuesday 2 October	Logan	SkillsTech, 247 Bradman Street, Acacia Ridge	4 pm
Wednesday 3 October	Gold Coast	A Block Auditorium, Gold Coast TAFE, Corner Heeb Street and Benowa Road, Ashmore	4 pm
Wednesday 3 October	Mackay	Theatre (K1.30), Central Queensland TAFE College, Sydney Street, Mackay	4 pm
Wednesday 3 October	Gladstone	Port Curtis Room, Boyne Tannum Community Centre, Corner Wyndham Avenue and Hayes Avenue, Boyne Island	4 pm
Thursday 4 October	Beaudesert	82 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert	4 pm
Thursday 4 October	Townsville	Conference Room, Tec-NQ (Australian Technical College), 54 Discovery Drive, Douglas	5 pm
Thursday 4 October	Biloela	DPI Office Complex, 98-103 State Farm Road, Biloela	4 pm
Monday 8 October	Gympie	Fossickers Room, Gympie Civic Centre, 32 Mellor Street, Gympie	5 pm
Monday 8 October	Rockhampton	James Lawrence Pavilion, Rockhampton Showgrounds, Exhibition Road, Rockhampton	4 pm
Tuesday 9 October	Emerald	Supper Room, Town Hall, 33 Egerton Street, Emerald	4 pm
Wednesday 10 October	Ipswich	Barry Jones Auditorium, 45 Roderick Street, Ipswich	4:30 pm
Thursday 11 October	Longreach	Fairmont Rooms, Civic and Culture Centre, 96A Eagle Street, Longreach	4 pm
Monday 15 October	Warwick	Southern Downs Engineering Depot, Yangan Road, Warwick	4 pm
Tuesday 16 October	Brisbane	SkillsTech, 776 Kingsford Smith Drive, Eagle Farm	4 pm
Tuesday 16 October	Toowoomba	Development Assessment Conference Room, Toowoomba Regional Council, 543 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba	4 pm
Wednesday 17 October	Gatton	26 Railway Street, Gatton	4 pm
Thursday 18 October	Kingaroy	Kingaroy Town Common Hall, Oliver Bond Street (opposite Kingaroy Showgrounds)	4 pm

Contact for further information

Building Codes Queensland
Department of Housing and Public Works
tel +61 07 3239 6369
free-call 1800 534 972
buildingcodes@qld.gov.au

Plumbing Industry Council
63 George St, Brisbane
PO Box 15027, City East QLD 4002
tel 1800 682 021
plumbers@qld.gov.au

If you have not received this Building and Plumbing Newsflash directly from 'Enquiries (BCQ)', you can subscribe via buildingcodes@qld.gov.au

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this Newsflash is provided by the State of Queensland in good faith. The material is general in nature and before relying on the material in any important matter, users should carefully evaluate its accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance for their purpose. It is not intended as a substitute for consulting the relevant legislation or for obtaining appropriate professional advice relevant to your particular circumstances. The State of Queensland cannot accept responsibility or liability for any loss, damage, cost or expense you might incur as a result of the use of or reliance on information contained in this Newsflash. It is not intended to be, and should not be relied upon as the ultimate and/or complete source of information.

12 September 2012