

Building and plumbing newsflash

Commencement dates for amended codes

Purpose

To advise that amendments to Queensland Development Code (QDC) Mandatory Parts 4.2 and 4.3 and the Queensland Plumbing and Wastewater Code (QPWC) have been approved by a Regulation.

Background

The QDC and QPWC are amended through amendments of the *Building Regulation 2006* and the *Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003* respectively.

Approved amendments to the codes

The updated codes are available on the Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP) website www.dip.qld.gov.au

Queensland Development Code

MP 4.2—Water savings targets and MP4.3—Alternative water sources—commercial buildings

The amendments of QDC MP 4.2 and 4.3 commence on **1 January 2009**. The amendments require labelling of rainwater and water storage tanks which supply water to plumbing fixtures to ensure water carters can clearly identify which tanks on a site can be filled with recycled water. Signs are to have minimum dimensions of 450 mm x 250 mm and are to read 'Warning: Rainwater' (for a rainwater tank) and 'Warning: Recycled/Reclaimed Water—Do not drink' (for a water storage tank).

Queensland Plumbing and Wastewater Code

The following amendments to the QPWC commence on **14 November 2008**.

Single check backflow prevention devices

Section 6 and appendix 4 in the QPWC will allow for the installation of testable single check backflow prevention devices and for field testing of testable single check valves. Single check backflow prevention devices cause less frictional pressure loss than double check devices which will assist in maintaining adequate water flows for fire fighting.

Minor amendments to 'meterable premises' and end use water quality tables

- The definition of a 'meterable premises' has been amended to include all class 1 buildings.
- Table T1 is now split into tables T1A and T1B. Table T1A sets the water quality requirements for intended end uses where greywater treatment plants generating <3kL are installed, and Table T1B where greywater treatment plants generating >3kL are installed.



Draft amended codes that have not yet commenced

The earlier Newsflash 333 outlined the following proposed draft amendments, as well as the above amendments that have been approved. The following draft amendments have not yet been approved

Queensland Development Code

MP 6.1—Maintenance of fire safety installations

The new code MP6.1—Maintenance of fire safety installations is still a draft pending approval. The code has been developed to set appropriate performance standards for maintenance of prescribed fire safety installations for the safe occupation of buildings and to specify required maintenance records.

Queensland Plumbing and Wastewater Code

Treated blackwater trials have been postponed for nine months

Proposed amendments to the QPWC for treated blackwater trials have not been approved for commencement. Further consultation will be completed before approval for commencement is recommended. On commencement at a future date, the trials will be limited to sewerred areas of south east Queensland, limited in number and they can only be undertaken in class 2, 5, 6 and 9b buildings. Trial criteria will not set a limit on the size of the wastewater treatment plant. Once trials are approved for commencement DIP will call for expressions of interest via a plumbing newsflash.

Legislation

- *Building Act 1975*
- *Building Regulation 2006*
- *Building Fire Safety Regulation 2008*
- *Queensland Development Code (QDC)*
- *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*
- *Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003*
- Queensland Plumbing and Wastewater Code

Contact for further information

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