

# Building and Plumbing Newsflash 606

Southern Downs Regional Council approved to opt-in to the Queensland Development Code for supplementary water supply

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## Purpose

To advise that Southern Downs Regional Council has been approved to opt-in to the Queensland Development Code (QDC) for supplementary water supply systems.

From 1 July 2022, all new residential and commercial buildings within the reticulated water network will be required to have a rainwater tank installed as part of the build.

## Background

Local governments are able to mandate the installation and connection of supplementary water supply systems for all or a certain part of their area under QDC Part 4.2 – Rainwater tanks and other supplementary water supply systems (for residential buildings) and QDC Part 4.3 – Supplementary water sources (for commercial buildings).

Since 1 February 2013, a local government can be approved to opt-in where they can demonstrate that to do so will provide a net benefit to their local community. This supports local government's ability to tailor water supply measures suitable to their local conditions.

The Southern Downs Regional Council applied to opt-in to the QDC for new houses under QDC 4.2 (class 1 buildings) and for new commercial buildings under QDC 4.3 (classes 3 to 9 buildings). The Minister for Public Works approved Southern Downs Regional Council's opt-in application.

## Application

From 1 July 2022, QDC 4.2 and QDC 4.3 will apply to building development applications for new buildings in the Southern Downs Regional Council area and the following tank requirements will apply.

Tanks for new residential properties must:

- collect water from at least 50 per cent of the roof area or 100m<sup>2</sup> (whichever is lesser)
- be plumbed to services including toilets, washing machines and at least one outdoor tap
- have a minimum capacity of 5,000 litres (1,100 gallons).

Tanks for new commercial properties must:

- collect water from at least 50m<sup>2</sup> of the roof area
- be plumbed to services including toilets (50m<sup>2</sup> per pedestal) and outdoor taps
- include a minimum capacity of 1,500 litres per required pedestal.

The Southern Downs Regional Council also passed the resolution in November 2021 to opt-in to the Queensland Development Code water saving requirements.

## More information

Information about [water supply systems](#) and the current versions of [QDC 4.2](#) and [QDC 4.3](#) are available on the Business Queensland website.

## Contact us

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