



Centre for Environmental Training

# On-site Wastewater Management Training Course

24-26 February 2026

Coffs Harbour, NSW



Key training for Site and Soil Assessors and Regulators to consolidate your skills in the design, technology and management of on-site and decentralised wastewater systems

The leading Australasian On-site Wastewater Management Training Course covering AS/NZS1547:2012 and NSW Government Guidelines

## On-site Wastewater Management Training Course

### On-site Wastewater Management

This very popular course is revised and updated for each presentation to illustrate best practice in on-site wastewater management. The course formally reviews competencies with an integrated series of practical and workshop exercises completed throughout the course. The course covers all aspects of the Standard AS/NZS 1547:2012 *On-site Domestic Wastewater Management* and the NSW Government *Onsite Wastewater Management Guidelines*.

The course is designed for those involved in planning, design, regulation, management, installation and performance supervision of on-site and decentralised wastewater management systems. It is particularly relevant to Environmental Health Officers, Building Inspectors, Plumbing Inspectors, Environmental Managers, Planners, Surveyors, Catchment Managers, Site and Soil Assessors, Environmental and Engineering Consultants as well as on-site systems designers, manufacturers and installation and maintenance technicians.

Councils should encourage attendance by site and soil assessors preparing Wastewater Reports to support Development Applications.

The three-day course comprises lecture presentations, practical demonstrations, hands-on practical and workshop sessions and a field based site assessment and design exercise. There is ample opportunity for discussion, information exchange and networking with fellow on-site wastewater practitioners.

The course has been developed in conjunction with regulatory agencies and relevant professional bodies throughout Australia and New Zealand, and is widely recognised for Continuing Professional Development.

Participants receive comprehensive course notes and on completion, a certificate formally documenting the course content and competencies addressed.

**Participants are asked to bring a calculator and, if possible, a shovel or an auger as well as suitable attire for the field based site assessment.**

### On-site Wastewater Management

Park Beach Bowls Club  
60 Ocean Parade  
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

24-26 February 2026

#### Technical sessions include:

- The Regulatory Environment
- On-site Wastewater; Generation, Quantification and Characterisation
- Primary Treatment; Septic Systems
- Other Primary Treatment Systems and Greywater Options
- Secondary Treatment; Sand Filters, Media Filters and Mound Systems
- Secondary Treatment; Constructed Wetlands
- Secondary Treatment; Aerated Wastewater Treatment Systems (AWTS)
- Soil Assessment for On-site Wastewater Management
- Soils; Hydraulic Conductivity and Dispersion
- Soils; Soil Testing
- Soils; Workshop Review
- Soil Absorption Systems; Trenches and Beds
- Passive Dosing Systems; Siphons and Flouts, LPED Systems
- Evapotranspiration Systems and Sizing by Water Balance
- Nutrients and Land Application Areas
- Irrigation Systems; Componentry, Selection and Design
- Site Assessment; Desktop Study
- Site and Soil Assessment
- Design Exercise
- Failing Systems; Auditing and Troubleshooting
- Failing Systems; Tracers and Source Tracking

## On-site Wastewater Management Training Course

### Course Presenters

**Phillip Geary, BSc, MSc, PhD**, Honorary Associate Professor in Environmental Science, School of Environmental and Life Sciences, The University of Newcastle. Phillip has served on the AS/NZS 1547 Standard Committee and was the inaugural Chair of NOSSIG, the National On-site Systems Interest Group in Australia. Phillip has researched and designed many alternative systems and solutions to on-site wastewater management problems in Australia, New Zealand and the USA and has had numerous papers on his research published. His recent research programs have investigated the impact of on-site wastewater systems on sensitive shellfisheries and the use of tracers to define the impacts of failing systems.

**Mark Saunders, BEnvSc. (Hons I)**, is a Senior Consultant at Whitehead & Associates Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd. Mark has wide-ranging experience in on-site wastewater management, including site assessment, system selection and design, project management, risk analysis and auditing. Mark has worked extensively in the public and private sector in both Australia and the USA. Mark has developed audit protocols and tailored operation and management (O&M) plans for a wide variety of package treatment technologies and works closely with both regulators and plant operators to troubleshoot package treatment plant problems to meet operational and regulatory requirements.

**Joe Whitehead, BSc, MAppSc, PGCE, FGS**, is Director of the Centre for Environmental Training and Principal of Whitehead & Associates Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd, a consultancy specialising in on-site wastewater management. Joe is an Environmental and Engineering Geologist with wide experience in site evaluation and wastewater management in Europe, America and Australasia. Joe has extensive expertise in design and management of both domestic and commercial scale on-site systems for difficult and constrained sites including those in landslip prone and sensitive coastal locations. Joe has contributed to the writing of a number of regulatory guidelines on on-site wastewater including the recent revision of the NSW Government *Onsite Wastewater Management Guidelines*.

### Course Enrolment Form (4032)

If you would like to enrol in this course please complete your details below or on-line at

<https://www.environmentaltraining.com.au/course-schedule>

Participant Name

Organisation

Billing Address

Postcode

Purchase Order Number

(if required by your organisation for invoicing)

Tel

e-mail

PLEASE REGISTER ME FOR:

**On-site Wastewater Management Training  
Course 24-26 February 2026**

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The course will be held from 8.30am to 4.30pm.  
Venue: Park Beach Bowls Club, 60 Ocean Parade, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450.

**Course fee: \$3,165.00 + \$316.50 GST = Total \$3,481.50**

**10% discount for two or more registrations from the same organisation.**

Course fee includes comprehensive course notes, lunches and morning and afternoon teas. Each participant will receive a certificate outlining the detailed content and duration of the course. Please bring required materials as noted in the brochure.

**Payment Terms and Conditions:** Payment can be made by EFT or credit card (a 2.6% surcharge applies). Places will be confirmed upon receipt of payment into our account. If you are unable to attend a course, you will need to advise us of cancellation at least 14 days prior to the course otherwise no refund will be provided. A full refund will be given where notice of cancellation is given more than 14 days before the course. 10% administration charge is applicable to all course transfers due to illness/non-attendance.

**The Centre for Environmental Training**

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**Web: [www.environmentaltraining.com.au](http://www.environmentaltraining.com.au)**

### On-site Wastewater Management

Competency based training covering all aspects of on-site wastewater management.

Covers the Standard AS/NZS 1547:2012 *On-site Domestic Wastewater Management* and the NSW Government *Onsite Wastewater Management Guidelines*.

Provides up-to-date coverage of advances in the science, technology and management of on-site systems and a wide range of options and alternatives for problem sites.

Is prepared and presented by the leading team of on-site wastewater trainers in Australasia.

In excess of 4,000 wastewater professionals from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific have already completed the course.

Participants receive comprehensive course notes and a certificate formally documenting competencies.

#### **What previous participants have to say:**

*The content was very detailed and logically presented. The presenters were extremely knowledgeable and professional. James Bloxham, MidCoast Council, NSW*

*This course has been extremely helpful in refining my skills as an on-site wastewater designer. Shannon Waddy, GeoLINK, Armidale, NSW*

*A must do for anyone looking at wastewater treatment and system design and install. Great presenters, great course material. I will use what I have learnt in this course every day. Amanda Taylor, Locked In Plumbing, WA*

*Fantastic, thank you. Logical progression, clearly explained and links together really well. A great course. Helen Bakker, Penrith City Council, NSW*

*Good level of detail. Good range of topics. The presenters have a great level of knowledge and are very happy to answer questions. The course has been extremely helpful for learning about regulations, new systems and better understanding current design procedures. David McGregor, Orange, NSW*



**Onsite i Site**

All course participants receive a complimentary subscription to our on-site wastewater information portal  
[www.onsiteisite.com](http://www.onsiteisite.com)