Centre for Environmental Training

Land Capability Assessment for On-site Wastewater Management Systems

23 - 25 February 2027

Melbourne, Vic



Practice-focussed training for Site and Soil Assessors and Environmental Health professionals, tailored to real-world job tasks in the design and management of on-site and decentralised wastewater systems

The leading Australasian On-site Wastewater Management Training Course covering the EPA Victoria *Guideline for Onsite Wastewater Management and Effluent Dispersal and Recycling Systems, AS/NZS1547:2012 and the Victorian Land Capability Assessment Framework*

More rigorous requirements for Land Capability Assessment have been incorporated into the recent versions of the EPA Victoria *Guideline for Onsite Wastewater Management (GOWM)* and *Guideline for Onsite Wastewater Effluent Dispersal and Recycling Systems (EDRS) and* updated Council Onsite Wastewater Management Plans. These documents refer to the approach outlined in the *Victorian Land Capability Assessment Framework*. This course brings you up to date with recent changes to these documents. The course covers all aspects of land capability (site and soil) assessment and design and management of on-site and decentralised wastewater management systems to comply with current legislation. The course follows the methodology presented in the revised *Guidelines*, the approach of the Australian Standard AS/NZS1547:2012 *On-site Domestic Wastewater Management* and the *Victorian Land Capability Assessment Framework*.

The course is designed for those involved in land capability assessment, planning, design, installation, regulation, management and performance supervision of domestic on-site and decentralised wastewater management systems. It is particularly relevant to Land Capability Assessors, Environmental Health Officers, Building Inspectors, Plumbing Inspectors, Environmental Managers, Planners, Surveyors, Catchment Managers, Geotechnical, 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 Land Capability Assessment (LCA) reports to support development applications. It is equally important that Council officers assessing Land Capability Assessment (LCA) reports are appropriately skilled.

The course comprises lecture presentations, practical demonstrations, hands-on practical and workshop sessions and a field based land capability assessment and design workshop. There is ample opportunity for discussion, information exchange and networking amongst participants.

Participants are asked to bring a calculator, pen and suitable attire for the field based site assessment.

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.

The course will be held at:

Best Western Airport Motel & Convention Centre
33 Ardlie Street
Attwood Vic 3049

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Technical sessions include:

- The Regulatory Environment, General Environmental Duty
- 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; Wetlands, Reed Beds
- Secondary Treatment; Aerated Wastewater Treatment Systems (AWTS and STS)
- 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
- Risk-based Land Capability Assessment
- Soil Permeability Testing by Constant Head Permeameter
- Design Exercise
- Failing Systems; Auditing and Troubleshooting
- Failing Systems; Tracers and Source Tracking
- Regional On-site Wastewater Issues

Land Capability Assessment

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 research papers published. His recent research has 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 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 has extensive experience in troubleshooting domestic and commercial on-site wastewater treatment systems. Mark has also written a number of Onsite Wastewater Management Plans for Victorian Councils.

Joe Whitehead, BSc, MAppSc, PGCE, FGS, is Director of the Centre for Environmental Training, Australia 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 and varied experience in geotechnical aspects of site evaluation, waste and wastewater management, in Europe, America and Australasia. Joe has extensive expertise in land capability assessment, design and management of domestic and commercial scale on-site and decentralised systems for difficult and constrained sites in Victoria. Joe has written Domestic Wastewater Management Plans for several Victorian Councils and has coordinated and contributed to the writing of the original MAV *Model Land Capability Assessment* document and the more recent *Victorian Land Capability Assessment Framework*.

Course Enrolment Form (4187)

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

Participant Name

Organisation

Billing Address

Postcode

Purchase Order Number
(if required by your organisation for invoicing purposes)

Tel

e-mail

PLEASE REGISTER ME FOR:

Land Capability Assessment for On-site Wastewater Management course ☐
23 – 25 February 2027

The course will be held from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm at Best Western Airport Motel and Convention Centre, 33 Ardlie St, Attwood Vic 3049.

Course fee: $4,230 including GST

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. 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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Telephone: **02 4954 4997**
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Web: **www.environmentaltraining.com.au**

Covers all aspects of on-site wastewater management.

Covers the EPA Victoria *Guideline for Onsite Wastewater Management (GOWM)* and *Guideline for Onsite Wastewater Effluent Dispersal and Recycling Systems (EDRS)*, AS/NZS1547:2012 *On-site Domestic Wastewater Management* and the *Victorian Land Capability Assessment Framework*.

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.

Over 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:

"Excellent content, covered so much. Field work and workshops helped me to bring it all together. Amazing knowledge. The booklet will be a great resource."
Michelle Magnussen – City of Casey

"Fantastic in-depth content readily available and I appreciate the printed form of content. Field demonstrations were very helpful and that's where I learnt the most."
Sam Young – DBM Geotech

"Excellent content, thorough notes and presentations. Excellent and approachable presenters. Very helpful and open to questions."
Charles Showers – Stanley, VIC

"Very good. I wish I had done this sooner, prior to reviewing any LCAs, because I can actually understand them now. The course has allowed me to understand LCAs and how to interpret them and identify areas of concern."
Puneet Kaur – Wyndham City Council

Onsite i Site

All course participants receive a complimentary subscription to our on-site wastewater information portal

www.onsiteisite.com