

The extent and content of these warnings vary depending on the nature of the contamination of risks associated with the unknown.

Local council can provide more information on this.

Do I need to test the water at a Laboratory?

Not necessarily. Testing requirements will be determined based on the intent of the supplied water.

Inspections and Reporting

Local council must verify PWS compliance with their registration annually.

Council may elect to inspect each PWS or in some cases require the PWS to report to them demonstrating compliance with their registration.

What if I am a Registered Food Business?

You may be granted an exemption to register as a PWS if you are already registered as a food business with local council.

In determining your food business application, council will give consideration (and may impose conditions) to the PWS when issuing the food business registration.

You should contact your local council to discuss possible exemptions.

Warnings, Information and Notifications

Warnings and Information

A PWS may be required to provide written advice to recipients about any restrictions on the water.

Once a PWS becomes aware the water poses a risk to public health, the PWS must provide advice on how to render the water safe (if possible). In certain instances the erection of signs may be appropriate.

Notifications

A PWS is legally required to notify their local council of any threats to public health resulting from the carting of drinking water.

Further Information

Local Council

Contact your local council environmental health officer.



Department of Health and Human Services

Contact the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738.

Access the *Tasmanian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines* and supporting documents at:

<http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/peh/water/drinking/guidelines>

**PUBLIC
HEALTH
SERVICES**

Private Water Suppliers

Registration and Compliance with the *Public Health Act 1997*



Department of Health and Human Services



Overview

A Private Water Supplier (PWS) supplies drinking water obtained from a private water source (other than a TasWater supply) to a premise used for:

1. Commercial purposes (accommodation, childcare, recreation and private water schemes).
2. Health purposes (aged care, health care and hospitals).
3. Educational (DoE, private schools and UTAS).
4. Imprisonment or detention.

The *Public Health Act* requires a PWS to register with local council to prevent risks to public health and comply with the requirements of the *Tasmanian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines*.

You may not carry out the undertaking of a PWS unless you are registered with council.

Penalties apply.

Registration

Intent

Council registration is intended to ensure all PWSs have appropriate water quality management measures in place to limit threats to public health.

Process

A PWS must make an application to their local council using the approved Application Form

You must submit supporting documentation and a prescribed fee as nominated by your local council.

Duration of Registration

Registration will be valid for 12 months from the date of issue – after which you must renew your registration with council.

Council will determine the extent to which you have complied with the obligations imposed on you as a PWS.

Conditions of Registration

If you become a registered PWS, you will be required to comply with the general requirements of the *Public Health Act* and the *Tasmanian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines*.

The local council may impose conditions of Approval on your registration to which you must adhere. These are aimed at protecting public health.

Supply of Drinking Water

Intent

It is important to establish the intent of the use of the drinking water you supply to recipients.

PWS may elect to supply drinking water without any restrictions on its safe use, whereas a PWS may provide drinking water advising the recipients the water cannot be safely consumed.

There are 'intent' options in between these two scenarios.

Drinking Water Quality

You must not supply drinking water unless you have established the microbiological and non-microbiological (chemistry) quality of the water.

If the quality of the water is unknown, then you must assume it is non-compliant.

Compliant Drinking Water

In situations where the quality of the supplied water can be assured, then that supply is allowable without any restrictions on its safe use.

Compliant drinking water would usually require treatment barriers in place and a corresponding monitoring program to ensure compliance. In some instances, supply by a third party would be acceptable.

Non-Compliant Drinking Water

Where non-compliant drinking water (or compliance unknown) is provided, then the PWS must issue warnings to recipients on the safe use of that water.