

Industry Bulletin 164

New licensing requirements for rainwater system installers from 10 February 2025

Deadline approaching – Rainwater system installers must apply for a permit before 10 February 2026.

This industry bulletin update is to remind rainwater storage system installers of changes to the Plumbers Licensing and Plumbing Standards Regulations 2000 (the Regulations) which expand the scope of regulated water supply plumbing work in Western Australia (WA).

What do the changes mean for unlicensed rainwater system installers?

From **10 February 2025** rainwater storage system installers who install water supply plumbing services from the outlet of a rainwater tank to a building must apply to the Plumbers Licensing Board (the Board) for a restricted plumbing permit (rainwater storage) to legally continue carrying out such work.

Permit holders will be authorised to carry out water supply plumbing work from a rainwater storage system to a building. The permit will not authorise the holder to carry out water supply plumbing work within a building. The permit is valid for three years with subsequent renewals after that.

The ability to apply for a permit is only available for one year. From 10 February 2026, no further applications will be considered. Recognising that a permit has not previously been required to carry out the described water supply plumbing work, the Board has determined that there will be no fee charged for the application, issue and first renewal of the 'restricted plumbing permit (rainwater storage)'.

What is required to apply for a restricted plumbing permit (rainwater storage)?

The Board has determined **three** requirements to apply for the permit.

i. Attend an induction course

Intended applicants must complete the restricted plumbing permit (rainwater storage) compliance requirements induction course prior to applying for the permit. This course informs applicants on the scope of permitted work under the permit, certification requirements for permitted work, and the prescribed plumbing standards that apply to the work. Attendees of the course will need to ensure they can demonstrate the experience requirements in item (ii).

Group inductions, complete with a Q&A session, are available to attend at 303 Sevenoaks St Cannington WA 6107. Persons residing in the regions who are unable to attend a group induction will be offered an online induction.

To register your interest in attending a 'restricted plumbing permit (rainwater storage) compliance requirements' induction course please email plumbingreview@lgirs.wa.gov.au and include your full name and telephone contact details. Building and Energy will maintain a register of persons who complete the induction course, to assist applicants.

ii. Demonstrate experience when making an application

Application forms are available on the Building and Energy website. To demonstrate the experience requirements to obtain a permit, the Board has determined that an applicant must provide evidence of the following:

- a minimum of two water supply plumbing installations they have carried out during the five year period up to 10 February 2025, which relates to water supply plumbing work – that is for the supply of water from a rainwater storage system to a building.

The required evidence must be in the form of a letter from an employer or invoices from customers, which refer to the water supply plumbing installations carried out by the applicant. The letter or invoices must include the:

- full address details of where the work was carried out; and
- email and telephone contact details of the employer or customer(s).

iii. Undergo a national police check

In line with all applications for plumbing licences and permits, applicants will be required to undergo a national police check with their application. Details relating to this requirement will be found on the application form. The cost of obtaining a national police check will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Explanatory diagrams of regulated water supply plumbing work

Diagram 1 – Water supply plumbing installation from a rainwater tank serving all fixtures.

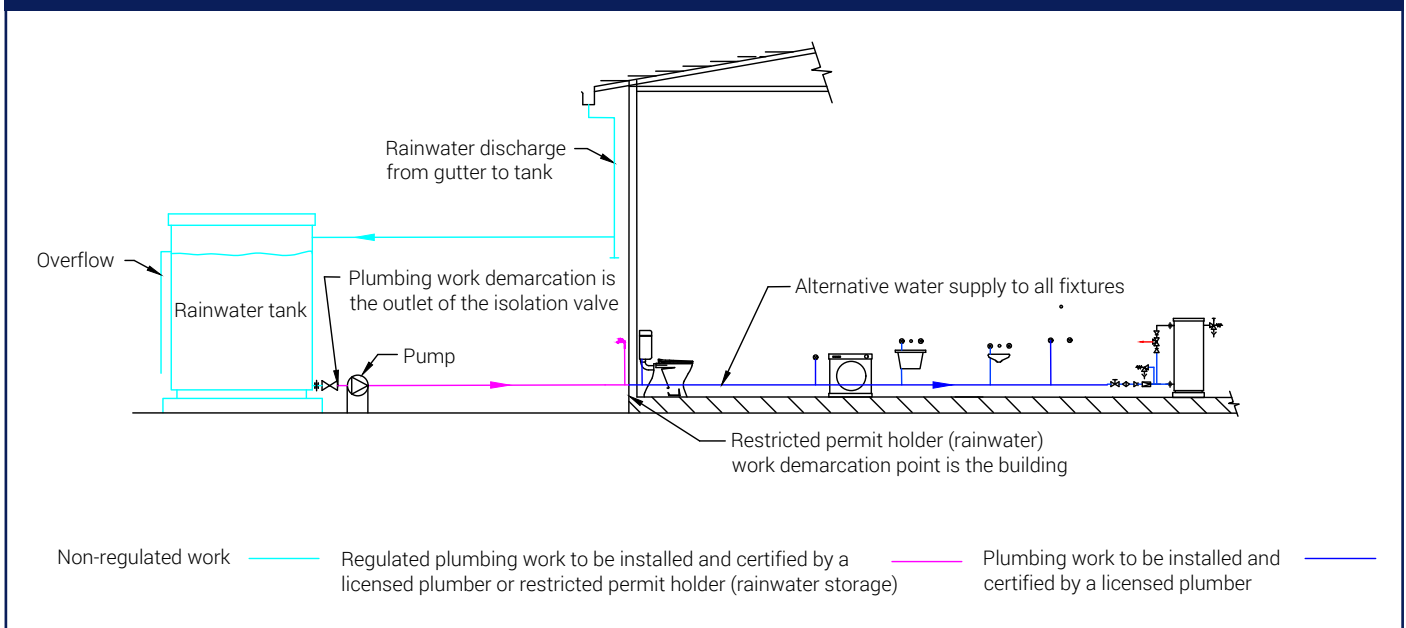
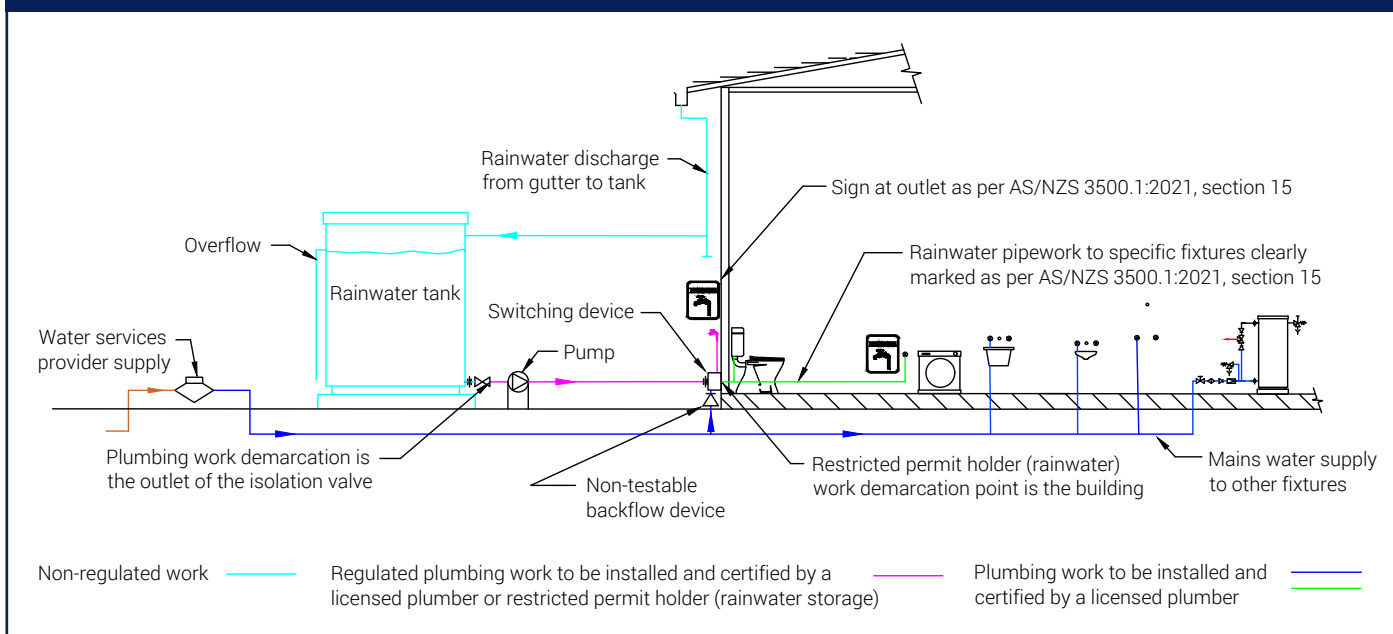


Diagram 2 – Water supply plumbing installation from a rainwater tank and switching device with mains back up to fixtures approved for use with rainwater.



Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety

www.lgirs.wa.gov.au

Goldfields/Esperance (08) 9021 9494
Great Southern (08) 9842 8366
Kimberley (08) 9191 8400
Mid-West (08) 9920 9800
North-West (08) 9185 0900
South-West (08) 9722 2888

Building and Energy Division

8.30am – 4.30pm
Level 1 Mason Bird Building
303 Sevenoaks Street (entrance Grose Avenue)
Cannington Western Australia 6107

Locked Bag 14 Cloisters Square Perth WA 6850

Call: 1300 489 099

Email: be.info@lgirs.wa.gov.au

[www.wa.gov.au/organisation/
building-and-energy/](http://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/building-and-energy/)

Disclaimer: The information contained in this fact sheet is provided as general information and a guide only. It should not be relied upon as legal advice or as an accurate statement of the relevant legislation provisions. If you are uncertain as to your legal obligations, you should obtain independent legal advice.

National Relay Service: 13 36 77

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 13 14 50