

South Gippsland Water is delivering the Alberton Sewerage Scheme to improve public and environmental health for the community of Alberton

The Scheme is a pressure sewer and South Gippsland Water has installed a Pump Unit, Collection Tank, Boundary Kit, House Discharge Line and an Electrical Control Panel at each developed property.

Property owners must connect their plumbing to the Pump Unit and decommission the existing septic tank. South Gippsland Water will complete the electrical connection.

Property owners will be mailed important information including;

- 1) A 'Declaration of Served Properties' served under Section 144 of the Water Act 1989
- 2) A 'Notice to Connect' letter served under Section 147 of the Water Act 1989
- 3) This Connection Kit, outlining how to connect (relevant for developed properties)
- 4) An invoice for your Scheme Contribution amount (mailed over the coming weeks)

Easy Steps to Connection

Step 1

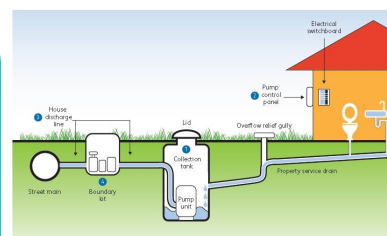
- Contact your plumber to provide a quote for rearranging household plumbing into the new pump unit and to decommission the existing septic tank (i.e. pump out, breakdown and backfill).
- A number of local registered plumbers are listed over the page. As a guide, plumbing costs should be in the range of \$1,500 to \$4,000. **Should you receive a quote higher than \$4,000 please call 1300 851 636 to discuss.**

Step 2

- Complete an 'Application to Connect' with your plumber. Your plumber then contacts South Gippsland Water to complete the process and arranges a date for connection.

Connected

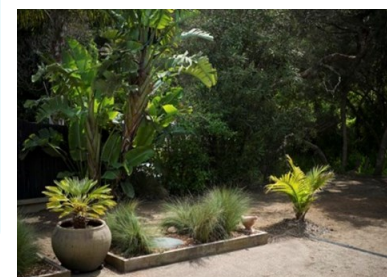
- Your plumber will connect you to the system and South Gippsland Water will activate the pump unit.
- You are now connected to the Sewerage System.
- For any assistance, please phone our Customer Service Team on 1300 851 636.



Pressure Sewer Components (see P.4)



Installation of a Collection Tank



Completed installation of a Collection Tank



CONNECTION KIT

Alberton Sewerage Scheme



What are the Fees and Charges?

One of the most important considerations for all property owners connecting to the new sewer system is how much it will cost. The cost of installation is slightly different for each property due to different ground conditions and the household's existing plumbing and electrical systems.

What we pay for

- Installation of a sewerage pipework within the Alberton Sewerage Scheme boundary.
- Construction of a transfer system to transport the sewerage to Tarraville Wastewater Treatment Plant for Treatment and re-use.
- Purchase and installation of the Collection Tank, Pump Unit, Electrical Control Panel, Boundary Kit and House Discharge Line.
- Electrical connection, including minor upgrades to your electrical switchboard if required (major upgrades not included).

What you pay for

- Sewer Scheme Capital Contribution Fee

Developed Properties also pay for

- Plumbing costs to connect the Pump Unit and Collection Tank to your existing plumbing.
- Decommissioning of your existing septic tank (e.g. pump out, break down and backfill).
- Ongoing electricity costs and wastewater tariff.
- Major electrical; upgrades if required.

Upon development of vacant land within the Scheme

boundary, the property must connect to the sewerage system and pay the 'On Property Costs' relating to connection. A subsidised rate will apply until 30 June 2018, currently \$4,600.

Payment Options

Customers may choose to enter into a repayment plan to repay their Sewer Scheme Capital Contribution Fee over a number of years. The Repayment Plan may be up to 20 years and will have a fixed interest rate of 5.725% per annum, fixed for the life of the term. There will be no early exit or termination fees should you repay the fee earlier.

Hardship Grants & Other Financial Assistance

Hardship grants are available for eligible customers. To apply, customers are required to obtain an application form from the Department of Human Services. For assistance or further information call South Gippsland Water on **1300 851 636**.

Electrical Upgrades

When we connect power to the pump unit via a separate circuit on your switchboard, minor upgrades to the switchboard may be necessary. We will carry out these upgrades at no cost to you.

Electrical switchboards must meet Australian Safety standards. If your electrical system is considered unsafe and needs a major upgrade, you will need to upgrade the electrical switchboard prior to South Gippsland Water completing the electrical connection. This will need to be done at the property owner's cost.

Summary of the Costs

What	Who Pays	Costs
Scheme Capital Contribution	The property owner - All properties within the Scheme boundary (both developed and undeveloped properties)	Developed Title Allotment: \$9,200 per title allotment. Vacant Title Allotment: \$4,600 per title allotment. Scheme Capital Contribution may be paid via an agreed repayment plan, with a fixed interest rate of 5.725% per annum, fixed for the life of the term. Please call South Gippsland Water to discuss your payment options on 1300 851 636 .
Plumbing Application fee	Not Applicable - Fee waived until 7th April 2015	\$201 - Fee waived by South Gippsland Water.
Connection costs to your house plumbing	The property owner, paid to the connecting plumber	Connection of household plumbing to the pump unit and decommissioning of the existing septic tank is estimated to cost between \$1,500 and \$4,000 depending on plumbing conditions. Indicative costs only, paid to the connection plumber.
Major electrical upgrades	The property owner, only required if electrical system is unsafe	Upgrade arranged and paid by property owner prior to connection. Costs are variable dependent upon property.
Ongoing Costs - Electrical supply to power the pump	Paid by the resident (owner/tenant) once property is connected	Electricity supply for the pump unit is approximately \$30-\$50 per year subject to usage and paid to your electricity supplier by the person residing in the property.
Ongoing costs -Wastewater tariff	The property owner	All properties (developed/vacant land) pay wastewater tariffs from the scheme commissioning date - currently \$446.10 p.a. for a developed property and \$253.20 for vacant land.

CONNECTION KIT

Alberton Sewerage Scheme



Important Information Regarding Plumbing and Electrical Connections

Electrical Connections to be Funded by South Gippsland Water

Due to community feedback and concern regarding the cost of connecting to the Scheme, South Gippsland Water will assist customers and complete the electrical connections for the Alberton Sewerage Scheme.

Customers will no longer be required to hire an electrician to connect the Electrical Control Panel for the Pump Unit to the household electrical switchboard.

Due to project efficiencies achieved, South Gippsland Water will now complete this work as part of the Scheme Contribution costs.

When we connect power to the pump unit via a separate circuit on your switchboard, minor upgrades to the switchboard may be necessary. We will carry out these upgrades at no cost to you (Note, major upgrades, if required, will need to be completed prior to connection at the property owners cost).

Guide to Plumbing Costs

To assist the connection process, South Gippsland Water has provided a list below, of licensed plumbers in the area. *South Gippsland Water is not responsible for the works undertaken by these contractors and gives no warranty as to quality of work or the choice of one tradesperson over another.*

It is the property owners responsibility to engage a qualified plumber to complete the plumbing connection and decommission the septic tank.

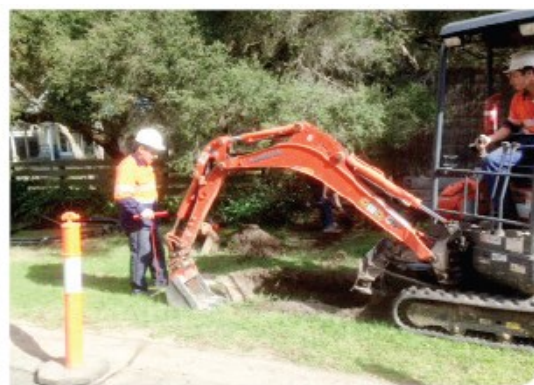
From experience with other sewerage schemes, South Gippsland Water has provided an indicative guide to plumbing costs (right).

Plumbing costs (re-arranging)	\$1,000-\$2,500
Decommissioning Septic Tank	\$1,500
Total Indicative*	\$2,500-\$4,000

*Indicative estimates only, individual properties will vary dependant on age, size and location of existing plumbing components.

Electrical switchboards must comply with Australian Standards and meet safety requirements; some homes will require electrical switchboard upgrades for safety reasons. Additional costs may be incurred if an electrical switchboard upgrade is required.

Plumber	Address	Phone
Geoff Brown	Yarram VIC 3971	5182 6031
Jeff Lipscombe	PO Box 47, Port Albert	0428 371 908
Kee Plumbing	48 Roger Street, Yarram	0428 825 318
Tarraelectric Pty Ltd	158 Commercial Road, Yarram	5182 6377
Willows Plumbing & Gas Fitting	627 Tarra Valley Road, Yarram	1300 650 446



CONNECTION KIT

Alberton Sewerage Scheme

South Gippsland Water is encouraging all property owner's within the Alberton Sewerage Scheme to connect to the Sewerage System as soon as possible. This is a community initiated project, connecting to the sewerage system will provide benefits to you, your family and the wider community.

Benefits of connecting

Some of the benefits of connecting to the system include;

- Reduced public health risks
- Cleaner groundwater with fewer potential contaminants
- Cleaner wetlands, waterways and river catchments including the Albert River which runs into the internationally recognised habitat for migratory birds, Corner Inlet
- Eliminated septic tank maintenance, problems and cost
- Eliminated wastewater seepage and dampness in your yard
- Reduced odours
- Increased volume of sewerage available for treating and re-use, saving our precious drinking water
- Increased property re-sale potential

What if I don't connect?

Not connecting to the sewerage system would mean continued potential of:

- Public health risks
- Groundwater contamination, leading to degraded wetlands, waterways and river catchments
- Environmental degradation and impact on sensitive areas
- Wastewater seepage causing odours and dampness in your yard

- Problems, maintenance and associated costs of septic systems

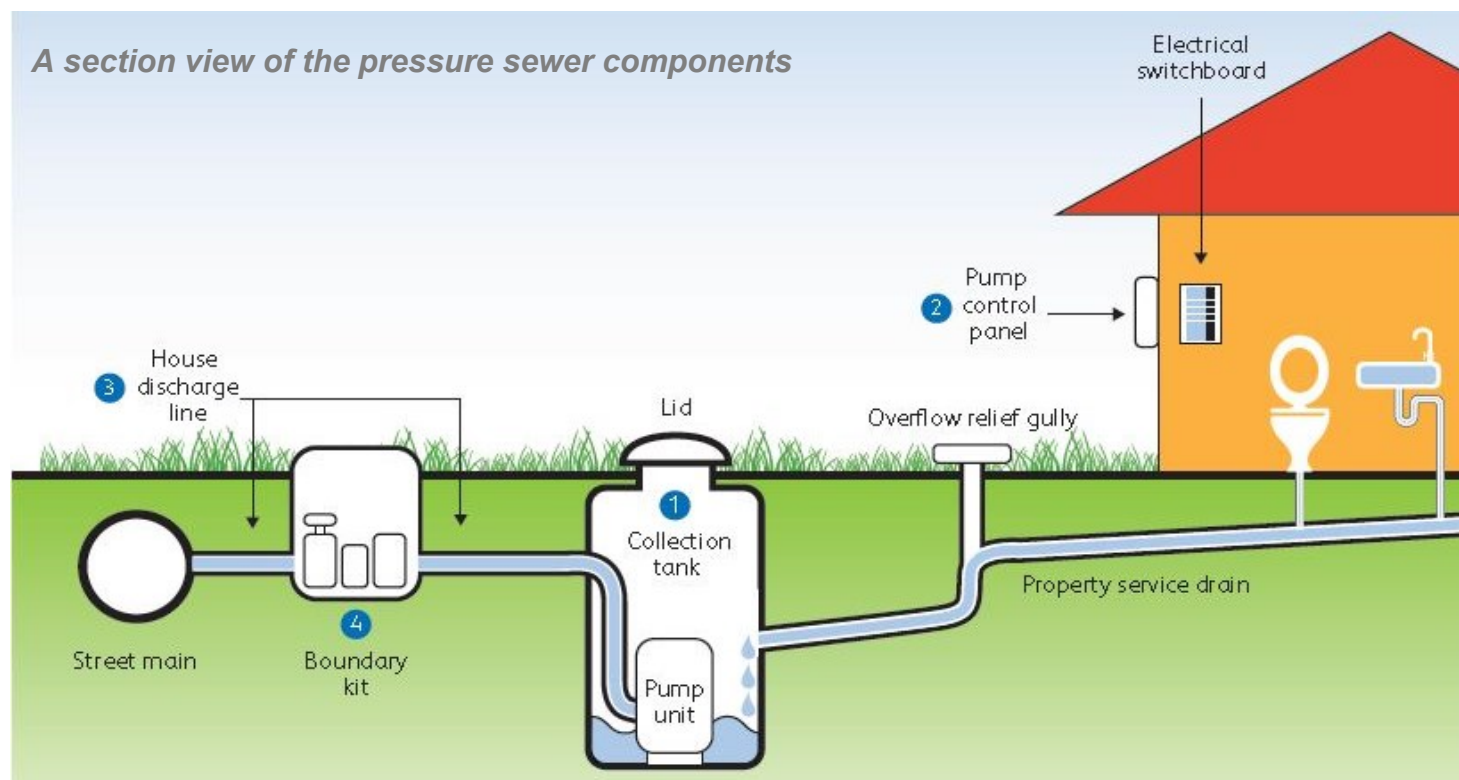
The pressure sewer pump units are not designed to sit dormant for any ongoing period of time, developed properties are required to connect by **7th April 2015**. For developed properties, not connected to the system within this period, should the pump unit installed and commissioned for the property seize, or does not function correctly upon connection, repairs may be at the property owner's cost

Regardless of connection, South Gippsland Water will charge each property the Sewerage Scheme Contribution and annual wastewater tariff. If you do not connect to the sewerage system an encumbrance clause will be placed against the property on South Gippsland Water's Property Information System and Wellington Shire Council and the Environment Protection Authority will be notified that the property has not connected to the sewerage system. Enforcement action may be initiated.

Ongoing maintenance of pressure sewer infrastructure

Each property will be supplied with a Pressure Sewer Home Owner's Manual that will be a quick reference guide for the ongoing maintenance and operation of the pressure sewer system. South Gippsland Water will be fully responsible for ongoing maintenance of the pressure sewer infrastructure on each property, and has a **1300 851 636** service and emergency number that operates **24 hours a day**.

A section view of the pressure sewer components



For more information call **1300 851 636**
or visit **sgwater.com.au**