## FAILED SEPTICS WITH EFFLUENT FLOWING ONTO ROAD

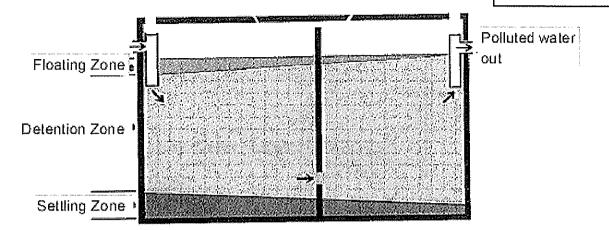






## Why not Conventional Septic Systems?

ITEM 9.2.5
APPENDIX B



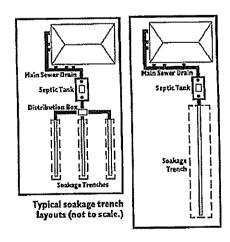
Septic/soakage trench systems are the old fashioned method of dealing with wastewater disposal. They have significant environmental drawbacks, and many local Authorities and Councils thoughout Austraila have restricted or banned their use in new homes. Other Authorities are activively encorouaging existing homeowners to replace old septic tanks with Aerobic Treatment Systems.

In a septic /soakage system, solid wastes is separated and retained in the septic tank, and the untreated wastewater, still rich in comntaminants is dispersed through slotted pipe or tunnels buried in gravel filled trenches, allowing it to soak into the ground.

This primitive process not only wastes the water, but can also lead to long term pollution of sub-surface water reserves. If the tank or the soakage trenches clog up over time, they can flood or produce seepage, leading to untreated sewage pooling above ground or flowing directly to stormwater drains or natural watercourses.

Excavation and associated costs are a major factor in the final price of septic/soakage systems. The amount of excavation required can vary substantially depending on the site and soil conditions, and the requirements of local Councils.

Many councils insist on a Soil Protection Test (at the property owner's expense) before they will approve a septic/soakage system. If your site fails, an Aerobic Treatment System is usually the only alternative.



Source: Biocycle Information Pack (2012)