

FACT SHEET



Lagoons at the Metung Wastewater Treatment Plant

Background

Development of the Metung Wastewater Treatment Plant began in 1991, originally planning to solely serve the community of Metung. Today, the Metung Wastewater Treatment Plant also treats sewage from Bruthen, Johnsonville and Swan Reach. The treatment plant is designed to treat seasonally fluctuating sewage loads, with the volume of wastewater treated dependent on tourist numbers and peaks during summer and Easter.

Wastewater collection

Sewage is collected via gravity sewers and pumping stations. Pumping stations in Metung, Bruthen, Swan Reach and Johnsonville feed untreated wastewater to the treatment lagoons at the Metung Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Wastewater treatment

Once the sewage enters the treatment plant, it is fed to the first lagoon, which is known as a facultative lagoon. Here, solids settle to the floor of the lagoon and are naturally digested and treated by microscopic organisms. Eventually, the organic component of the solids is stabilised.

From the first facultative lagoon, the wastewater flows by gravity to a second facultative lagoon. Once it has settled further, the wastewater is pumped to and distributed between two winter storage lagoons, from there the water is then used for irrigation.

The winter storage lagoons store treated wastewater during winter months and wet weather, when irrigation is not possible. They also provide further treatment of the wastewater.

Treated wastewater must be held in the winter storage lagoons for a minimum of 20 days for disinfection before it can be released for beneficial reuse.

Beneficial reuse

One hundred percent of the treated wastewater produced by Metung Wastewater Treatment Plant is put to beneficial reuse.

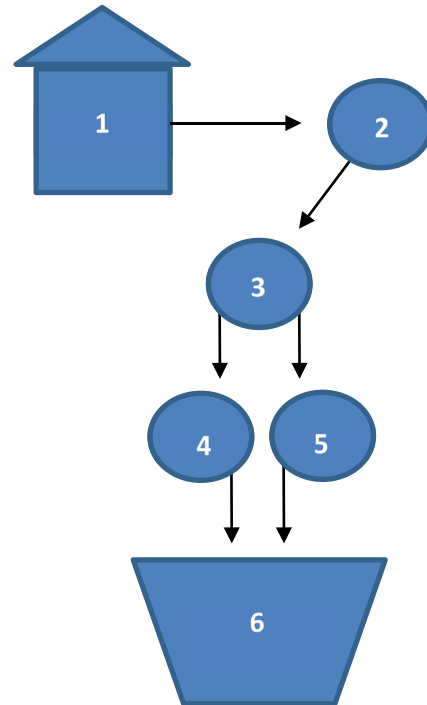
Reclaimed water from the Metung Wastewater Treatment Plant is used to irrigate adjacent pasture owned by East Gippsland Water.

After the minimum 20 days in storage, water from the winter storage lagoon is pumped directly to the pasture.

For more information-

Contact East Gippsland Water on 1800 671 841 or email egw@egwater.vic.gov.au

Alternatively, Visit the Bairnsdale office at 133 Macleod street, Bairnsdale on weekdays during business hours.



Metung Farm owned by East Gippsland Water receives treated wastewater for irrigation

Legend:

1. Wastewater is collected from Metung and surrounds
2. Facultative Lagoon 1
3. Facultative Lagoon 2
4. Winter Storage Lagoon 1
5. Winter Storage Lagoon 2
6. Pasture Irrigation