

**22.07****DAMS**28/04/2016  
C61

This policy applies to the development of dams in the Rural Living Zone and Low Density Residential Zone.

**Policy Basis**

This policy builds upon the Municipal Strategic Statement objective in Clause 21.06 to increase environmental flows in all streams and watercourses.

Water management and proper siting and design of dams is important in the Shire considering the extensive rural areas and the continued development of rural living and low density residential areas.

**Objectives**

To ensure that dams are designed and constructed in such a manner that the likelihood of dam failure is minimised.

To ensure that dams are only constructed by people familiar with appropriate dam construction and soil conservation techniques.

To ensure that dam sizes relate to the suitability of the site and to the use intended.

To minimise tree removal and to maximise retention and use of top soil.

To ensure appropriate revegetation.

To prevent construction of dams in environmentally sensitive areas, such as bush gullies.

**Policy**

It is policy to:

- Site, design and construct dams in accordance with the following criteria, as appropriate:

***Siting***

- The location of the proposed dam should be appropriate for the terrain characteristics of the land.
- The dam should be located to minimise the removal of native vegetation.

***Design***

- The capacity of the proposed dam should be appropriate for the catchment area of the site. Spillways should be designed to cater for a 1 in 5 year storm level.
- Soil types on the site should be suitable for water retention and if not suitable, adequate mechanical or chemical means should be employed.
- A landscape plan should be prepared to show the location of the dam (including any mulch) on the allotment, contours and finished levels, extent of any vegetation clearing works proposed, dimensions and capacity.
- Any overflow should be diverted back into the natural water flow or course.

***Construction***

- Top soil stripped from the site should be spread on any exposed batters.

- Exposed soils should be revegetated with perennial grasses and appropriate indigenous vegetation as soon as possible after construction.
- The contractor or the applicant should consult with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and be familiar with recommended dam construction techniques.

**Consultation**

The views of the Department of Environment Land, Water and Planning and any relevant drainage, water or catchment management authority may be sought and taken into account.