

## **YOUR WATER SUPPLY – IS IT SAFE?**

### **Info Note EH02**

An adequate safe water supply is essential for healthy living. Council under its town Planning Scheme and Health Local Laws, requires you to have an adequate water supply. In Gelorup this must be a rainwater tank with a minimum capacity of 92,000 litres. In special rural and rural areas a rainwater tank with a capacity of 92,000 litres, or a bore is adequate.

#### **BORE WATER**

The quality and quantity of water from bores varies considerably in the Shire and could contain matter which could be prejudicial to health or be damaging to plumbing, or cause staining to stonework or laundry. It is therefore essential that an analyst's report is obtained before the water is used for human consumption.

#### **RAIN WATER**

Rain water may be pure but when stored in a rainwater tank it can become contaminated with organic matter, bird droppings or dead animals. It is advisable to have a filter which will remove bacteria or some other form of disinfection. Rain water tanks should be cleaned out at least every two years and a dose of chlorine should be added before refilling. If water is tanked in at any time it is also a good practice to chlorinate before the tanker arrives. This helps kill any bacteria stirred up by the addition of the water.

#### **DAM OR CREEK WATER**

All dam and creek water should be considered polluted and should not be used for human consumption.

#### **WATER TREATMENT**

Treatments can include:

- Chlorination
- Ultra Violet
- Filtration
- Softening
- Aeration
- Setting
- Flocculation

Testing Laboratories and Water Treatment Companies can be obtained from the Yellow Pages. For further information on the microbiological quality of water please contact Council's Environmental Health Officer.

