

# Moreton Bay Research Station (MBRS) Freshwater Operating Procedure

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## 1. Scope

This procedure is limited to the use and disposal of fresh (town) water used at the Moreton Bay Research Station.

## 2. Objectives

- To avoid risk of harm to the saltwater environment of Moreton Bay and any plant or equipment used in the treating of wastewaters from the research station;
- To reduce the demand on natural freshwater resources.

## 3. Freshwater Management

### 3.1 *Water Supply*

Water supplied from any of the following sources is town water (freshwater) supply.

- All taps (except for plastic taps in labs); and
- Shower, toilets and other ablution systems.

All fresh water is supplied directly from town water supplies. This water should be of at least the standard outlined in *Table A1.1* in the *Appendix of the Water Program*.

### 3.2 *Disposal*

Freshwater can be disposed of through any of the following streams:

- Stormwater;
- Infiltration; and
- Sewage.

#### 3.2.1 Stormwater

All waters disposed of external to the building (e.g. concreted apron at the rear of the research station) discharges to the stormwater system. This also includes runoff from grassed areas where infiltration does not occur.

Stormwater is discharged directly to Moreton Bay, therefore the same water quality parameters as those in the Saltwater Procedure must be met.

No chemicals (used in research purposes) must be flushed, poured or in any way discharged to the stormwater system. Washing of vehicles (boats and cars), where possible, should exclude the use of detergents, etc (refer to *Boating and Vehicle operations procedure* for further detail).

### 3.2.2 Infiltration

Similar to stormwater outfall, infiltration occurs through soils and exposed land where stormwater is taken into the soil. This water may break through and flow to Moreton Bay (as per stormwater) or it may enter the groundwater system.

To limit the potential for any harm to the environment, no waters, except clean stormwater (i.e. rainfall straight from rooves) or water used for maintaining the landscaping, shall be discharged to any landscaped areas.

### 3.2.3 Sewage

Moreton Bay Research Station is linked to the sewage system. Only typical domestic wastewater is permitted into the sewage system (i.e. toilet flush water, shower, sink and kitchen wastes). Some laboratory wastes can be disposed of through the sewerage system (refer to *Chemical Waste Procedure, Section 9A* for acceptable laboratory discharges).

## 4. Enquiries

Any enquiries in regard to the Freshwater Management Plan should be directed as follows:

Enquiry	Department/Centre	Contact	Telephone
Town water supply	Engineering Services, Property and Facilities Division	Engineering Project Officer 2	(07) 336 <b>52205</b>
Disposal	Faculty of Science	Manager, Moreton Bay Research Station	(07) 3409 9058