



Water Reclamation - Warrnambool Water Reclamation Plant

The Warrnambool Water Reclamation Plant is on the southern fringe of Warrnambool and provides sewerage services to residents, business and industry.

To begin the treatment process, sewage undertakes a step screening process that removes any large items and rubbish, which is collected and washed before being disposed. Sand and grit is removed from the sewage via the grit removal channel. The sewage is aerated to increase the density of any remaining sand and grit which settles to the bottom of the channel.

Sewage is then pumped through selector tanks where it is mixed with activated sludge, which allows bacteria access to new sewage. The selector tanks are designed to encourage the most effective micro-organisms to flourish, which aid the treatment process. The reclaimed water then flows into four activated sludge tanks.

The process in the activated sludge tanks consists of two hours of aeration, one hour of settling (where sludge settles to the bottom of the tanks) and one hour of decanting. The remaining sludge is removed and put through a belt filter press, which squeezes out any excess water. The dried sludge is then taken to a biosolids facility and reused as a soil conditioner on nearby farms.

The reclaimed water from this process is treated to meet Environment Protection Authority standards and is released to the ocean.



Activated sludge tanks at the Warrnambool Reclamation Plant

AT A GLANCE

Warrnambool Water Reclamation Plant

2012/13 Volume Treated Sewage:	4,700ML
Number of Customers:	14,898
Storage Capacity:	17ML
Type of Treatment Used:	Biological Treatment

IML = One Million Litres