

## Factsheet: Annual Septic Fee

The annual septic fee is levied on all owners of an on-site wastewater management (septic) system in the MidCoast local government area to cover costs associated with regulatory and educational activities performed by Council's On-site Wastewater Management Team. These activities include:

- Completing proactive inspections of septic systems in high-risk areas (i.e. aquaculture areas);
- Resolving issues associated with poorly performing systems that pose a threat to public health and the environment;
- Ensuring the conditions specified in the approval to operate the system are met;
- Providing education and guidance to the community; and
- Monitoring and assessing service maintenance reports received for aerated wastewater treatment systems.

The *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) are the key legal instruments councils utilise to regulate septic systems in NSW. Councils are required to keep an up-to-date register of all septic systems in use and to ensure systems comply with the performance standards specified in clause 44 of the Regulation. The approval requirement also allows councils to recover an application fee or periodic renewal fee which is levied under section 608 of the Act.

Please contact Council and ask to speak with an Environmental Health Officer in the On-site Wastewater Management Section if you have any questions or if you would like an officer to inspect your septic system.