



From left to right: (1) Boat Harbour beach was off-limits to holidaymakers until the installation of the Aquatec-Barnes pressure sewer systems. (2) Once installed, the aquatec-Barnes units are barely noticeable - even this close to the beach. (3) The pristine environment of Boat Harbour showcases the low environmental impact of the Aquatec units - one homeowner (foreground) has even used the domed cover as a pot stand!

The problem

The steep rugged terrain of Boat Harbour Beach in Northern Tasmania made it difficult for the Waratah - Wynyard Council to provide suitable sewerage options for the community. A popular venue for holidaymakers in the summer, the beach was spoiled by warning signs saying, "Do not play on beach area is subject to pollution from septic tanks." Something had to be done!

The Aquatec solution

Aquatec was chosen to supply pressure sewer units to Waratah - Wynyard Council for the Boat Harbour project primarily due to the superiority of our tank.

Aquatec's tank is manufactured from polyethylene, which is far more durable than some other tanks. Tank durability was particularly important in this project due to the rocky terrain. Aquatec's tanks were able to be transported over the rough waters of Bass Strait without fear of cracking or damage. In Boat Harbour, units were able to be installed under exterior decking and in some instances (where the terrain was too rocky) even installed only partially buried in the ground.

Aquatec provided Council with our exclusive Closed Valve Protection (CVP) switch, which not only protects individual systems when valves are inadvertently closed by homeowners but also protects pressure sewer reticulation assets.

Aquatec were also able to offer control systems that were compatible with Council's infrastructure (multi-trode level probes, rather than float or pressure switch methods) and provided complete design services for the project, in order for the contractor to procure and install the appropriate reticulation piping.

Results

The implementation of Aquatec's Pressure Sewer System at Boat Harbour was a major environmental success. The Aquatec units were installed in very difficult steep terrain with minimal disturbance to the sensitive environment.

The signs on the beach were removed and the beach is now a safe place. Boat Harbour is now even more popular and numbers to the town have dramatically increased during holiday times. People are flocking to the town and twenty townhouse villas are currently under construction.

Best of all is the fact that with no service calls out since installation, both Council and residents hardly know the system is there.

"I was really impressed with the service that Aquatec provided. Units were delivered right to our site office at Boat Harbour (despite the challenges of transport across the water) and were securely packaged ready to install. Aquatec's senior management team attended the site and were available to answer any queries we might have had. In practice there were very few, as the units were so easy to install, even where the presence of rock just below the surface made excavation difficult.

In such cases, we were able to install the Aquatec-Barnes unit part-in, part-out of the ground, which is not possible with the competitor unit. Aquatec went the extra mile to help us at Boat Harbour, which was great as it was our first pressure sewer installation. I can't recommend them highly enough."

Nic Broomhall, Shaw Contracting



From left to right: (1) One of the prestige homes in Oxley Drive, Mittagong, which had a leaking septic tank before the installation of an Aquatec-Barnes pressure sewer system. **(2)** The lid of the unit, made of polyethylene in Brunswick Green, blends into the landscape of this peaceful and pretty country garden.

The problem

The pristine township of Mittagong is located in the mountains of NSW, one hour inland from the Sapphire Coast.

Residents of the prestigious houses situated in Oxley Drive were having major problems with leaking septic tanks contaminating ground water supplies. Sydney Catchment wanted a solution to clean up, and conventional gravity systems were simply not a viable option due to large underlying rock and steep terrain proving costing to excavate.

The Aquatec solution

Aquatec's team worked with NSW Department of Commerce and Wingecarribee Shire Council and provided a fully detailed design.

The Aquatec unit is extremely environmentally friendly and was the best option for a number of reasons.

Tank durability was important particularly because of the tough rocky conditions. Another key factor is the moulded inlet stubs, which solves the problem of leakage to the environment. Small bore pipe and shallow pipe burial made installation cheaper and involves minimal disturbance to the conditions of Mittagong.

Results

"Our client, NSW Department of Commerce, was very concerned about the price for the Oxley drive project. Aquatec were superior in this regard but they also supplied a high quality product and 'Rolls Royce' service which was vital being our first low pressure installation. Components arrived in a timely manner and technical support was always available by site visit or telephone.

Aquatec's tank being very robust and relatively short was ideal for the conditions as less rock had to be removed. We were also very impressed with the quality and design of their attractive powder coated stainless steel switchboard and well designed pump and controls.

During commissioning Aquatec supplied an experienced technician for nearly a week providing training for the council maintenance staff and ensuring the system was ready to run prior to the final property connections being made. Overall the Aquatec Barnes product and Aquatec's service were excellent and we are looking forward to installing more of their units in the future."

- Glen Koperberg, Redline Contracting.