

# Plumbing Newsflash

Building Certifiers

Building Designers

Hydraulic Consultants

## Unregulated Work (Water Plumbing)

### Purpose

The purpose of this Newsflash is to clarify the meaning of “unregulated water plumbing work”, and who can perform this work.

### Legislative requirements

The *Standard Water Supply Law* currently allows a person who is not a licensed plumber to perform unregulated work. The work is essentially minor plumbing maintenance carried out by any person, and is defined in the Dictionary of the Law as:

*Unregulated work means water-plumbing work that is only-*

- (a) Installing or maintaining an irrigation or lawn watering system downstream from an isolating valve, tap or backflow prevention device on the supply pipe for the irrigation or lawn watering system; or*
- (b) Replacing a jumper valve or washer in a tap; or*
- (c) Replacing, in a water cistern, a drop valve washer, float valve washer or suction cup rubber.*

### The Department’s interpretation

Unregulated work may be considered to be work of an unskilled nature where the risks to property, community, health and safety, and the environment are low.

Replacement parts and fittings for these items are readily available from any number of hardware and plumbing supply outlets. However, these items must be plumbing products that must have authorisation under SAA MP52- Manual of Authorised Products.

### Recent changes

From 1 July 2000, a person who offers a service to perform unregulated water plumbing work does not need to be licensed by the Queensland Building Services Authority. This change removes the previous inconsistencies, whereby the Queensland Building Services Authority legislation required this work to be performed by a licensed plumber.