



**Planning some  
plumbing work?  
Know the law**

**If you're planning plumbing work, you may need to get permission from us before you start (a bit like building regulations).**

This is to make sure plumbing systems meet the UK standards designed to keep our drinking water safe.

Notifications are required by law and cover a wide range of work.

These include alterations to water systems in business premises and if you're building a new house or installing a rainwater system.

The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations are national requirements for the design, installation and maintenance of plumbing systems, water fittings and water using appliances.

It's important to comply with them because they aim to prevent misuse, waste, undue consumption or erroneous measurement of water and – most importantly – prevent contamination.

These regulations apply to all plumbing within the boundary of your residential or commercial property – and to any appliances connected to the water supply.

**It's free to notify us and it's a quick and simple process. Failure to notify us could result in prosecution or you could have to carry out costly extra work at a later date.**

## Types of plumbing work covered

You must notify us if the work you're planning includes:



Building a house or other property/structure.



Changing the use of a building or installing systems, such as rainwater harvesting.



Extending or altering the water system on a non-household building.



A reduced pressure zone (RPZ) valve assembly or similar.



A water treatment unit which produces wastewater.



A bidet with an upward spray or flexible hose.



A reverse osmosis unit (for cleaning water).



A pump or booster drawing more than 12 litres of water per minute.



Installing a swimming pool or pond which holds more than 10,000 litres of water.



A garden watering system (unless operated by hand).



A bath which holds more than 230 litres of water.



Any water system outside a building which is either less than 750mm or more than 1,350mm below ground.

We weren't able to include all the relevant works here – but you can find the full list at: [waterregsuk.co.uk](http://waterregsuk.co.uk)

# What do I need to do?

Under regulation 5 notification, whether you are the owner/occupier or installer/plumber, it is your legal duty to make sure that the regulations are met – and to notify us (where applicable) before starting work.

To gain permission, which is free, we need:

- Your name, address and contact details
- A description of the proposed work and location
- Your plumbing contractor's name and address

We may also ask for extra information, such as a list of water fittings and evidence of their compliance with the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations.



## What is an approved plumber?

Approved plumbers have specific training in how to work safely with drinking water and can carry out some plumbing work without notifying the water supplier.

They'll also issue you with a certificate to state the work has been carried out according to the regulations.

## Need a plumber?

WaterSafe is the UK body for approved plumbers. To find your nearest approved business, use the postcode search at: [watersafe.org.uk](https://watersafe.org.uk)

## What happens next?

You can start work as soon as you receive permission from us – **you'll usually hear back from us within 10 working days.**

If you don't receive a response within this time, you can assume you have consent and start work. However, the plumbing work must still comply with the regulations.



Find the application form online at [anglianwater.co.uk/waterregs](https://anglianwater.co.uk/waterregs)



# For further information

Please contact Anglian Water if you have any further questions about planning some plumbing work

Call: **0345 600 1063**

Email: [waterregulations@anglianwater.co.uk](mailto:waterregulations@anglianwater.co.uk)

Web: [anglianwater.co.uk/waterregs](http://anglianwater.co.uk/waterregs)

