

# Procedure for tappings on cracked asbestos pipes

Barwon Water has a procedure in place to ensure tappings on asbestos cement (AC) water mains are conducted safely.

When submitting a new tapping application, Barwon Water will advise if the main is listed as 'cracked AC'. Any works on cracked AC mains require a licensed Class A asbestos removalist to supervise the excavation and remove all contaminated materials.

## **Who is a licensed Class A asbestos removalist?**

Barwon Water has contracted Kennedy Plumbing, a Licensed Class A asbestos removalist, to supervise tappings on cracked AC pipes. They will supervise the excavation, hand excavate around main to prepare for tapping saddle and transport the contaminated spoil.

## **What do I need to do?**

You need to contact Kennedy Plumbing and organise a suitable time for them to attend the site and supervise the excavation. Kennedy Plumbing can be contacted on (03) 5221 1030. They require 48 hours' notice to schedule the works.

You then need to contact Barwon Water to book in the date. We require 48 hours' notice to ensure a crew is available to complete the tapping.

Under excavation guidelines, the plumber is required to:

- complete all service locations and road opening permits (if required)
- excavate to within 100 mm of the main using a mechanical excavator
- prepare the site for the tapping
- obtain extra soil for backfill (due to the contaminated spoil being removed).

Plumbers should be aware of WorkSafe requirements when working near asbestos, and practise safe working procedures.

Once the excavation is complete, Kennedy Plumbing will remove any asbestos material and hand excavate around the main to prepare it for the tapping crew. They will also transport contaminated spoil and material to an EPA-approved disposal site.

Barwon Water maintenance services contractors will then complete the tapping (wearing appropriate protective equipment). If the excavation does not meet guidelines, the tapping will be cancelled and will need to be re-booked.