THE GOOD WATER

In recent times many people have come to realise that reliable, accessible and quality water is an important part our lives. Many of us take for granted the need for water and the cost of installing, maintaining, and protecting the source and distribution. Be it an individual household on tank water, Community / town or commercial / industrial water supply.

We use water in many ways:

1. For drinking, washing and general household functions.
2. For commercial needs, such as farm and orchard irrigation and stock water.
3. For Industry use, such as cooling water, product batch mixing, cleaning water.

We must be mindful that water is a resource that needs to be well managed to maintain and improve water quality and availability.

We can all help ourselves and each other by:

1. Not wasting water
2. Making sure your bore or well is properly protected from any surface water contamination.
3. Fencing off waterways, springs and where ever water is sourced from. This keeps stock out.
4. Cleaning or maintaining tanks, filtration equipment and water pipes.
5. Using Ministry of Health (MOH) approved filtration and sterilizing equipment that is installed by trained or approved tradesmen. .

Setting up a water supply can be a stressful experience for those of us not too sure where to begin or what the long-term sustainability of the system will be. If quality information is received through the early planning stages, the risk of ongoing project issues and material or equipment failure is greatly reduced.

Choosing trustworthiness and experience as part of your project planning team will drastically reduce the chance of unknowns and being stuck with a system that may not meet required standards or only just do the job.

These are some of the areas that would need careful consideration:

1. Engaging a Consulting Engineer to gain consent approval, produce a design and programme. Perhaps project manages the job. (Needed for projects supplying 10 or more people).
2. Choosing a source that meets quality and quantity expectations
3. Choose a trustworthy and experienced equipment supplier.
4. Choose a trustworthy and experienced tradesman or contractor.
5. Correct pump, filtration and sterilisation systems, materials and equipment selection.
6. Comparing ongoing maintenance and compliance costs.
7. Become informed or trained to run or maintain your future system.

In my experience, whether you are collecting roof water into a water tank, servicing your farm out of a bore, supplying a factory or reticulating a whole community, quality planning, information and support will ensure success.

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