



property owners to register information about their revetment walls with Council. Providing a certification regarding the revetment wall is now a compulsory condition of developing waterfront property. Where there is no information regarding the revetment wall, the best approach is to obtain professional engineering advice to determine the condition of your revetment wall and whether any works will be required to ensure the wall is structurally sound.

Q12. What will happen if I do not fix up my revetment wall when required?

A. Revetment walls can collapse if they are not adequately maintained. Collapsing walls are most common during rainfall and flood events. Depending on the size and location of the wall, the consequences of falling revetment walls can be severe, undermining houses, injuring people and polluting the environment. If your collapsed wall affects adjoining properties you may be responsible for any damage arising from the failure of your wall.

The cost to recover from a collapsed revetment wall is many times greater than the cost of proper ongoing care and maintenance of the wall. The State Emergency Service volunteers endeavour to provide assistance to householders who suffer storm damage (phone 132 500 for assistance). The SES encourages householders to take their responsibilities seriously and fix their walls prior to the storm season so that SES volunteers do not have to put their lives at risk. Prevention is better than disaster recovery.

Q13. I intend on building or developing my waterfront property. Where can I find information about what will be required for the revetment wall?

A. The Gold Coast Planning Scheme requires that development on waterfront property does not proceed unless the water frontage is stable and capable of supporting the proposed development. Council's Land Development Guidelines and Codes outline the requirements for planning new revetment walls, or new development supported by existing revetment walls. A condition of development or building on waterfront property may be to provide to Council a certification from an engineer that the condition of the revetment wall is suitable for the development or building proposed. It is not desirable that new buildings are constructed on waterfront property if the foundations (including the revetment wall) are inadequate to prevent the collapse of the structure.

Q14. How do I know where my revetment wall should be built?

A. Council has maps showing acceptable locations for waterfront buildings, revetment walls and pontoons. The acceptable locations are called waterfront setback (for waterfront buildings), waterway regulation line

(for revetment walls) and quay line (for pontoons and jetties). The application form for this search can be found at www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/attachment/forms/fm244_search_request_form.pdf.

For further information call the search unit on 1300 366 659. If there is no waterfront setback, revetment regulation line or quay line information available for your property, then an impact assessment process is required to establish these alignments prior to development or building upon that property.

Q15. What if I want to build my revetment wall in a different location to that shown on the Council map?

A. Applicants can submit an impact assessment that justifies new locations for revetment walls for consideration for adoption by Council and other regulatory agencies.

Q16. I have information relating to the revetment wall protecting my private property, what should I do with it?

A. If you hold information relating to the revetment wall protecting your private property, please submit this information to Council. This will ensure all records held by Council are kept up to date. Please send this information to:
PO Box 5042, Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9729

Q17. If my revetment wall becomes unstable, what can I do?

A. In an emergency situation where public health and safety may be threatened you may wish to carry out rock buttressing works to your revetment wall as a maintenance measure. Rock buttressing (rock armour) is the placement of rock against the revetment wall to provide additional stability. An application to place rock will need to be lodged with council, works can be carried out before this application is lodged but Council's eventual approval via a development application process is required. For this reason residents are urged to contact Council to obtain information on how to perform these emergency works which Council will need to eventually approve. Advice can be sought from Council's Operational Works section on (07) 5582 8710 or (07) 5582 8883. These works may provide a temporary measure to stabilise the wall but it is advised that you contact a consulting engineer with coastal structural experience to determine whether the wall will need reconstruction.

Q18. Will my household insurance cover my revetment wall?

A. All household insurance policies differ in the level of coverage they provide. Please call your household insurance company and ensure they provide the appropriate cover to include any issues which could arise in regard to your revetment wall.