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Handy hints for concrete tanks

CONCRETE water tanks can be found on thousands of rural properties across Victoria.

Poured on site, concrete tanks are usually large in volume, some of which have been around for more than 80 years.

Many of the tanks Tank Shop is called in to repair have been neglected for many years without owners considering the consequences.

Water storage solutions

1 The overflow pipe on the tank must be piped six metres away so overflowing water does not sit around the base of the tank.

2 A tank with water sitting around the base in winter conditions is a recipe for disaster down the track. The base of the tank will subside to the wet side over many years and cracks will appear when the base moves. Keep the base of your tank dry at all times with the relevant drainage, such as spoon drains.

3 Don't plant trees/shrubs/plants around the tank, as roots will penetrate concrete over time looking for water especially in dry months. We have seen many tanks where the floors have cracked due to the tree's roots pushing from underneath.

4 Consider how long water tank cracks have been



A leaking concrete water tank will prove costly over time.

leaking. Some cracks can sit in a paddock and leak for more than 20 years. This will effect the steel reinforcement inside the wall and floors, weakening structural strength.

How to stop leaks in concrete tanks

The earlier you can repair concrete water tank leaks the stronger your tank will be for

future years.

The Pressure Injection Flexible Sealant used on concrete tank leaks is the same application used on Melbourne's Burnley Tunnel.

The injection sealant treats the crack from the outside surface with the water inside the tank, sealing the crack all the way through the wall's thickness, from the outside surface in.

This prevents water from making contact with the steel reinforcement of the tank.

The base of the concrete tank and how this is kept dry by utilising correct drainage and water run off strategies will eliminate water from sitting around the base of the tank and will keep the tank base free.

Concrete water tanks provide a lovely fresh, crisp tasting water which you do not find in modern day water storage solutions.

Repair your leaks now and save for the future.

For more information phone Darren Smith from the Tank Shop on 0427 427 183 or visit www.thetankshop.com.au