

CHAPTER 3

DISPOSAL OF SANITARY SEWAGE

3.1 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

All Systems

Five (5) sets of plans are required for a Disposal Works Construction Permit application. The plans shall be no larger than 18 inches by 24 inches in size, and must comply with 310 CMR 15.211 "Minimum Setback Distances", 15.214 "Nitrogen Loading Limitations", and 15.220 "Preparation of Plans and Specifications" inclusive. The plans shall show the location of two (2) percolation tests with the Board of Health percolation numbers. Zoning of the lot shall also be indicated. All septic system covers **MUST** meet the guidelines in 3.1 and a wastewater filter is required to be installed in the outlet of a septic tank in the sanitary tee.

Repairs or Upgrades

In addition to the requirements of Section 3.1.A designs for repairs or upgrades to existing disposal systems shall include the installation of a minimum 1500 gallon septic tank or a new tank with a minimum capacity equal to or greater than that required by 310 CMR 15 whichever is greater.

Covers on all septic system shall be **metal** of medium grade, to withstand an anticipated minimum H-10 loading, except a location where there is the potential for vehicles or heavy equipment to pass over them they should be designed to withstand an H-20 loading as stated in 310 CMR 15.226 §3.

Garbage Disposals

Any subsurface disposal system which is intended to include a garbage disposal or for which a permit application is submitted for repair or upgrade and includes a garbage disposal must include a design which demonstrates compliance with 310 CMR 15 and includes additional capacity for the garbage disposal.

INSPECTIONS

During the course of installation of all septic systems the following (3) three inspections are required: open hole/bottom bed, stone and a final inspection. Water is required to be on site for the final inspection. All inspections require a 24-hour notice.

3.2 AS-BUILT PLANS

The engineer shall conduct a final inspection of the installed system including final grading and breakout grade and prepare an As-Built plan of the wastewater disposal system for all new construction and all repaired systems. The engineer shall submit three (3) copies of the As-Built and one (1) Certificate of Compliance, signed and stamped, to the Board of Health office

within fourteen (14) days from the completion of the sanitary system. As-Built plans shall conform to all requirements of 310 CMR 15.220 "Preparation of Plans and Specifications", and shall include the following additional information:

- A. Zoning of lot.
- B. Owner's name, address, map/lot number, street address of lot and the area of the lot.
- C. Ties to the septic tank, distribution box, and to at least two (2) corners of the leaching field or pit form permanent structures or features.
- D. Top of foundation elevation and finish grade elevation at the house foundation and at a minimum of two (2) points over leaching field. Invert elevations at tank and distribution box.
- E. Invert elevations at tank and distribution box.
- F. A certification that the system meets the breakout requirements.
- G. Certified location of well.

A Massachusetts registered professional engineer shall certify the plan. The engineer shall also be licensed to work in the Town of Norton, however a land surveyor may be on site to certify and stamp as-builts plans. The certification statement shall state:

" I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all work shown on this plan has been completed in accordance with the terms of the permit, the plan approved by the Board of Health, State Environmental Code 310 CMR 15.000, and the regulations of the Norton Board of Health."

If an error in the installation is determined, the engineer shall contact the installer within twenty-four (24) hours and advise the installer on correcting the installation and notify the Board of Health Agent. The engineer shall observe the corrections prior to his certifying the plan.

3.3 SETBACKS IN WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION DISTRICT

Any sewage disposal leaching system constructed within the water resources protection district shall be at least one-hundred (100) feet from any water source, including streams, ponds, open drains, and vegetated wetlands.

3.4 PERCOLATION TEST PROCEDURE

Percolation tests are conducted year round. Percolation test must be applied for prior to said activity date. The Health office has blank applications for percolations request and tests dates. The owners, client, contractor or the engineer can sign for percolation test dates but the fee must be paid with the application. **IF THE FEE IS NOT PAID, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH WILL NOT WITNESS THE TEST.** All percolation tests shall be recorded, even the failed test/soil examinations. A perforated pipe with a four (4) inch diameter will be inserted in the deep observation hole. The Board of Health will number all percolation tests. Prior to leaving

the site, the Board of Health representative shall sign or initial both copies (Engineer's and Town's) A field copy of the percolation test data and soil description shall be submitted to the Board of Health office at the end of the tests. A formal copy of the test data shall be submitted with the sanitary disposal design plan. Blank forms are available at the health office.

CANCELLATION

Notification of a cancellation must be received in the office of the Board of Health prior to the end of the business day, which precedes the assigned date and time. Failure to notify the Board of Health will result in a \$50.00 rescheduling fee.

3.5 VALIDITY

All percolation test results can be used providing they meet the following conditions:

- A. The observation pipe is in place and not silted in.
- B. The number is on the pipe and visible.
- C. The test data is on file in the Board of Health office.

3.6 DEWATERING PERCOLATION TESTS

De-watering percolation tests will not be recognized as valid percolation tests in the Town of Norton.

3.7 WATER TABLE

High ground-water elevation will be determined by observation of actual high water table during the times of annual high-water table (January 1 through March 31). Out of season water tables will be established by observation of the abundance, size and contrast of mottling if present and USGS wells for correlating comparisons in water tables. The Frimpter method with any additional add-ons as established by the Board of Health may also be used.

3.8 PLAN REQUIREMENTS

All deep test holes and numbered percolation test holes shall be located on a plan by the applicant's engineer, said location shall be verified by distances and direction from permanent landmarks, i.e., light or telephone poles, hydrants, etc.

3.9 DEEP TEST HOLE

The Board of Health or their agent reserves the right and responsibility to require a deep test hole to monitor and/or observe the water table at any time.

3.10 SEWER CONNECTION REQUIREMENT

All owners of property with reasonable access to a common sewer, and where permission to enter the sewer can be obtained for the Water and Sewer Commission, **must connect** to the sewer before

transferring ownership of any property. Such owners must provide to both the prospective buyer and the Board of Health, prior to the transfer of ownership of any property, documentation evidencing approval by the Water and Sewer Commission of the approved completion of the sewer connection.

3.11 RESPONSIBILITY OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS AND MORTGAGE LENDERS

Any real estate broker representing the owner or buyer of a property in the Town of Norton, which is offered for sale, shall provide that person with a copy of Chapter 3 of these regulations.

Any banker, mortgage lender, or other person accepting a loan application from the prospective buyer of a property in the Town of Norton shall provide the applicant with a copy of Chapter 3 of these regulations.

3.12 PRE-SALE TITLE V INSPECTION

Prior to the transfer of any property in the Town of Norton, a Title V system inspection report shall be submitted to the Board of Health office within (30) thirty days from the date of inspection. An inspector licensed by the Norton Board of Health must perform inspection. Inspectors noting conditions with existing systems which may cause the system to exceed its design capacity, i.e., extra bedrooms, garbage disposals, running water, connected surface drains, shall advise the homeowner of their findings and include such information in their report. An inspection review fee of \$25 shall accompany every report submitted. All septic system covers **MUST** meet the guidelines in 3.1 and a wastewater filter is required to be installed in the outlet of a septic tank in the sanitary tee. The filter may be installed between the septic tank and the distribution box with the approval of the Board of Health. The cover over the outlet tee must be to the finished grade. Wells must be tested prior to transfer of title as stated in 5.21 of these regulations.

3.13 FLOW RATE

All subsurface sewage disposal systems will be designed using the Flow Design Criteria set forth in the Massachusetts State Environmental Code Title V, Regulation 310 CMR 15.203 as long as the Sections 310 CMR15.242 and 310 CMR 15.253 remain in force and effect as of 3/31/95, or are changed to require larger leaching system areas for a given flow rate. If, at any time, the Section 310 CMR 15.242 and 310 CMR 15.253 are deleted, altered, or superseded to allow for smaller leaching area requirement will revert to 110 gpd per bedroom for residential structures until such time as the Board of Health takes action to change the requirement.

3.14 ALTERNATIVE SYSTEMS

The Board of Health may establish any special conditions necessary to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety and the

environment, and to ensure appropriate evaluation and testing. Such conditions may include without limitation: specification of site; of effluent characteristics; flow limitations; monitoring; testing; and reporting requirement; a requirement that a certified operator operate the system; or financial assurance mechanisms. The Board of Health may also specify changes or modifications of requirements otherwise applicable to conventional systems that are appropriate for use of the alternative systems.

3.15 SHARED/CONDOMINIUM/COMMERCIAL SYSTEMS

- A. All shared, condominium, and commercial systems must be pumped every (2) years and inspected every 3 years.
- B. At minimum, the following requirements shall apply to these Shared, Condominium and Commercial Systems.
- C. Should municipal sewer service become available at the locus, the applicant or its successors in the ownership, operation and maintenance of all units in the development to said sewer within two years of the notice of the sewer availability.
- D. The subsurface disposal system shall include properly sized filters on the outlets of each septic tank.
- E. All communal system sewerage piping must be pressure tested and shown to have no leakage before acceptance.
- F. Baffles or divided septic tanks must be included per CMR 15.223 (1)(b), 15.224 and 15.225.
- G. According to 310 CMR 15.231 pressure dosing of the disposal system leach fields is required.
- H. High water level and power failure alarm systems must be provided and must include un-interruptible power supplies.
- I. The leaching area surface must be maintained with grass cover without brush or trees.
- J. Signage must be installed and maintained around the leaching area stating that the open area is not suitable for public use, playing or driving.
- K. Backup electrical power for all pumps and controls must be provided.
- L. System design and construction shall comply with 310 CMR 15.90 through and including 310 CMR 15.292.
- M. The Applicant shall provide the Board of Health, the Town Water and Sewer Commission, and the Town Clerk a Waiver, previously reviewed by and suitable to Town Counsel, stating that private subject communal sewerage facilities shall, at no time after completion, be or become the responsibility of any Town agency or commission. Such

waiver shall be binding upon any future owner or owners of the property. This condition would not apply once the applicant or successors connects to the municipal system.

- N. The applicant shall establish a fund to be reserved specifically for repairs to and / or replacement of the communal sewerage system and the subsurface disposal system. The fund shall be funded by assessments on all owners of units within the development and served by that system or other method acceptable to Town Counsel and the Board of Health. At the time each unit is purchased by the initial buyer, the developer shall assess and collect, or pay itself, an initial payment that shall be deposited in the fund. The sum of the initial payments shall total **one hundred fifty percent of the certified construction cost of the communal system**. As monies are removed from the fund for any reason they shall be replaced by further assessments over a reasonable time, not to exceed three years, such that the fund is available for repairs to and / or replacement of the septic system in perpetuity.
- O. The Applicant shall enter into an agreement with a Massachusetts regulated firm for the operation and maintenance of the communal sewerage facilities on the property. Such agreement shall include annual pumping of the septic tank and concurrent inspection of the sewerage facilities including pumping facilities and subsurface disposal facilities. Such agreement shall be filed with the Board of Health prior to issuance of building permits. The Board and the Board of Health shall be provided thirty-day notification prior to the termination of the agreement for operation and maintenance of the sewerage facilities.
- P. Sewerage facility inspection and pumping reports for the communal systems shall be presented to the Board of Health within Thirty days of each pumping and inspection event.

3.16 ADDITIVES

There is a considerable body of evidence that the use of chemical additives in the operation and maintenance of subsurface sewage disposal systems in particular, in the cleaning of clogged or poorly draining subsurface disposal systems, has a deleterious affect on septic tanks, piping, and the soil to which the subsurface discharge is made. Therefore, the use of chemical additives (acids, based, or flocculants) for any purpose, in any part of any subsurface sewage disposal system in the Town of Norton is prohibited.

3.17 ILLEGAL INSTALLATION OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS

No person or firm shall engage in the construction, alteration, installation, or repair of any individual sewage disposal system without first obtaining a Disposal Works Construction Permit from the Board of Health in accordance with Title V of the State Sanitary Code 310 CMR 15.000.

3.18 SEPTIC SYSTEM INSTALLERS

To obtain a license to install or repair septic systems in the Town of Norton, the Board of Health requires the installer to take a "Septic System Installer" test, and have a passing grade of 80% correct, the Board of Health will administer this test. The fee for the registration has been established in the fee schedule.

3.19 ENGINEERS, REGISTERED SANITARIANS and SOIL EVALUATORS REGISTRATION

Professional Engineers, Registered Sanitarians, and DEP Certified Soil Evaluators in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who conduct percolation tests, soil evaluations, and design septic systems in the Town of Norton, must be registered with the Norton Board of Health.

No percolation tests and/or soil evaluations will be scheduled, or septic system design plans approved unless the Professional Engineer, Soil Evaluator, or Registered Sanitarian has a valid registration on file with the Board of Health.

To obtain a registration in the Town of Norton, the applicant must fill out a registration form completely and sign it. Proof of state licensing and/or certification for Professional Engineers, Certified Soil Evaluators, and Registered Sanitarians will be required prior to the issuance of the registration. This registration will be effective until the end of the calendar year in which it was issued. The fee for the registration has been established in the fee schedule.

When permits are applied for and there are outstanding issues ie as-builts have not been submitted. No further permits will be issued until in compliance with regulations, effective 5-3-07.

3.20 TITLE V SYSTEM INSPECTOR REGISTRATION

Every certified Title V System Inspector must register with the Norton Board of Health to perform Title V septic system inspections in the Town of Norton.

To obtain a registration in the Town of Norton, the applicant must fill out a registration form completely and include proof of DEP certification. The fee for the registration has been established in the fee schedule.

All systems that are inspected in the Town of Norton must be pumped at the time of inspection. A wastewater filter **MUST** be installed in the outlet tee at the time of inspection if one is not already present. Covers **MUST** meet the requirement set forth in 3.1. The licensed Title V Inspector must obtain all information needed for the inspection from the Board of Health office. The fee for the registration has been established in the fee schedule.

3.21 PORTABLE SANITARY FACILITIES

All companies supplying portable sanitary facilities within the Town of Norton shall obtain a permit from the Norton Board of Health for each location in which a portable sanitary facility will be placed.

The application for a portable sanitary facility must include the street number and street name, approximate distances from existing structures, and length of time the facility is to be on site. All permits expire December 31 of the year issued. The fee for the registration has been established in the fee schedule.

- A. A septage pumper licensed by the Norton Board of Health per Title V 310 CMR 15.502 shall perform pumping of portable sanitary facilities.
- B. Every portable sanitary facility shall be cleaned and sanitized at a minimum of once a week.
- C. Portable sanitary facilities are required on all construction sites.

3.22 SEPTAGE HAULERS

No person or corporation shall remove and/or transport septage and/or grease through the streets of Norton or via any state or federal highway located within Norton without first obtaining a permit from the Board of Health (310 CMR 15.502). Each vehicle utilized within the Town must obtain a separate permit to haul septage, which must be carried at all times in the vehicle. The fee shall be as established in the fee schedule.

Septage - means the scum, liquid, sludge or other waste in a septic tank, soil absorption field, holding tank, grease, privy, or other components of a private sewage system.

Grease Trap - Shall mean any external watertight structure or any internal grease trap designed to pre-treat commercial kitchen waste before discharging into a domestic sewage waste system.

- A. Pumping records must be turned in the first week of the following month, that septage was pumped. This form must be legible and completely filled out. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a violation (see 3.23 of these regulations).

3.23 VIOLATIONS

In addition to remedies provided for by 310 CMR 15.000 (Title V), any violations of Chapter 3 of these regulations will result in a 30-day suspension. Three consecutive suspensions will result in permanent revocation of the registration, permit, or license. Any services performed within the Town of Norton without a valid registration, permit, or license issued by the Norton Board of Health will result in a \$100.00 fine per occurrence. Each day will constitute a separate violation.