

Section 1 - discharge permit for any premises

- 1.1 The Health Officer shall require all sewage disposal systems in the District to operate under the requirements of a discharge permit.
- 1.2 The Health Officer is authorized to require an inspection of any premises to ensure that it has a sewage disposal system that is operating as designed and that prevents sewage from entering the watersheds of the District. The Health Officer shall issue a discharge permit to any sewage disposal system that meets the requirements of this code (Sections 3 and 7).
- 1.3 Application for Permits: An application for a discharge permit shall be made by the property owner or authorized representative to the Health Officer at the following times:
 - a) When notified in writing by the Health Officer
 - b) Upon submittal of a septic system inspection report
or
 - c) As requested by the property owner
- 1.4 A discharge permit shall be issued automatically with the issuance of a final inspection of a sewage disposal system permit.
- 1.5 Application Exemption: The Health Officer may exempt an owner from making an application for a discharge permit if documentation can be provided that demonstrates the property has been vacant or unused for a period of 36 consecutive months in a 5 year period.
- 1.6 A discharge permit shall be issued upon review and approval of a discharge permit application and a septic system inspection report submitted with a pass designation by a Registered Septic System Inspector as described in Section 3 of this chapter.
- 1.7 Transfer of Permits: Should the ownership for the property for which a permit has been issued change, the permit may be transferred to the new owner. Such transfer must be requested in writing on forms to be provided by the Health Officer.
- 1.8 Rescinding of Permits: If conditions exist that indicate an imminent health hazard, the Health Officer shall rescind a permit. A permit may be reinstated if corrective actions are completed and verified by the Health Officer.
- 1.9 Denial of Permits: The Health Officer may deny the issuance of a permit under one or more of the following conditions that has been identified by a Registered Septic System Inspector and reported to MMDHD;
 - a) No sewage disposal system can be located that serves the dwelling
 - b) A portion of the sewage disposal system is not located on the property
 - c) The condition of the sewage disposal system is a hazard and a threat to public safety

- d) Evidence of effluent discharging to the ground or in to any lake, river, waterway, county drain or storm drain
- e) Evidence of a sewage disposal field or tile system that will not effectively treat wastewater
- f) Evidence of a direct connection between a septic tank and a waterway
- g) Sewage failure exists at a location where public sewer connection is available
- h) Imminent health hazard exists at a location where public sewer connection is available
- i) The permit application contains false information that is material to the decision to issue a permit

1.10 Correction Notice: The Health Officer may issue corrective orders where conditions exist that prevent the issuance of a discharge permit.

1.11 Expiration of Permits: Any permit issued pursuant to the requirements of the preceding sections shall be valid for the term of 10 years from the date of issuance, unless rescinded as provided in Section 1.5 of these regulations. The Health Office shall issue a permit for a period of less than 10 years if an inspection indicates marginal site conditions for supporting onsite wastewater disposal or the system is at risk for failure.

Section 2 – System Maintenance

2.1 Pumper's Reports: Licensed Septage Haulers shall provide pumper's inspection reports to the Health Department on a form provided by the Health Department when septic tanks are pumped as part of periodic maintenance.

2.2 The Health Officer shall require a septic system inspection if a pumper's report suggests a sewage disposal system failure.

2.3 Alternative Sewage Disposal Systems: Existing Alternative Sewage Disposal Systems that continue to meet Chapter 3, Section 5.2 of these Regulations shall not be required to obtain an additional septic system inspection but will be required to apply for a discharge permit.

2.4 Properties that have a deed restriction indicating yearly maintenance requirements shall provide copies of yearly maintenance to MMDHD. Maintenance reports shall be reviewed as part of the property's application for a discharge permit.

Section 3 – Inspection and Registration

3.1 Registration: All individuals performing work under this Regulation within the counties of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm shall apply for and pay a registration fee to be registered with the Mid-

Michigan District Health Department as a Registered Septic System Inspector. Registration shall be valid for 5 years from date of issuance.

- 3.2 The Health Department shall maintain a list of Registered Septic System Inspectors.
- 3.3 The Health officer may revoke the registration of a Registered Septic System Inspector when failure to abide by Environmental Health Regulations occurs.
- 3.4 Persons seeking to become a Registered Septic System Inspector must demonstrate knowledge of construction practices, operational standards and know the causes and indicators of On-site sewage disposal system failures. Documentation of successful completion of a current training course approved by the Health Department shall be presented to the Health Officer at time of Registration.
- 3.5 Candidates that meet the registration requirements will be required to attend a consultation meeting with the Health Officer prior to the issuance of a Registration.
- 3.6 Periodically during each registration period, the Health Department shall conduct Quality Assurance and Quality Control review of Registered Septic System Inspectors files and field work review.
- 3.7 Designated representatives of the Health Department who hold an RS or REHS credential or are endorsed by the Health Officer may conduct septic system inspection as directed by the Health Officer.
- 3.8 A Registered Septic System Inspector shall collect sufficient information through a site inspection to determine whether a sewage disposal system is properly treating sewage effluent. The Health Department will review this information and issue a pass or fail determination.
- 3.9 A Registered Septic System Inspector shall report the results of their inspection electronically to the Health Department promptly following the date of inspection.
- 3.10 A Registered Septic System Inspector shall notify the Health Officer within 5 days if an imminent public health hazards exists at a property being inspected.
- 3.11 A Registered Septic System Inspector who is also registered as a septic installer at MMDHD shall not install a replacement septic system on a property without the homeowner or authorized representative applying for a permit to construct, alter or extend a sewage disposal system
- 3.12 A Registered Septic System Inspector who is also registered as a Septic Installer at MMDHD shall not install a replacement sewage disposal system on the same property in an effort to obtain a discharge permit.

3.14 A Registered Septic System Inspector may perform limited work during an inspection at the discretion of the homeowner with or without being a septic installer in MMDHD as long as such work is limited to above ground or tank enhancement.

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