DIGHTON BOARD OF HEALTH

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE INSPECTION, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF ONSITE SEWERAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS WITHIN THE TOWN OF DIGHTON

The Town of Dighton observes the minimum requirements for the subsurface disposal of sanitary sewage as set forth in the Massachusetts State Environmental Code 310 CMR 15.000 (Title V) with the following additions/exceptions:

Title V Inspections:

1. All cesspools automatically fail. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

2. If the percolation test was done prior to May 1995 or there is no record of a soil Evaluation on file at the Dighton BOH, then a soil evaluation must be performed by a licensed Soil Evaluator and witnessed by the Board of Health. All systems must be soil evaluated to a depth greater than four feet below the lowest elevation of the leaching area. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

3. The system must be pumped as part of the inspection unless proof of pumping within the last six months is provided. Pumping records must be submitted and attached to the report. Prior to pumping tank, measurements and the integrity of the tank must be confirmed. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

4. Water usage must calculated in gallons per day under the flow conditions section of the report. Water meter readings must be submitted and attached to the report. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

5. The outlet cover of the septic tank must be brought to grade and the D-box cover must be brought to within 6" of grade at time of inspection. In addition, a filter must be placed on the outlet of the tank. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

6. Inspectors must conduct a room count of the house to determine the number of bedrooms as defined in Title 5 and submit a sketch of the floor plan of the dwelling with the Title V report. (hand drawn is acceptable) *(adopted 7/1/19)*

7. If State and/or local requirements cannot be met, the report should be classified as a "conditional pass" or "needs further evaluation by the BOH" and include a ***thorough*** written explanation of why the local requirements cannot be met. A supplemental narrative will need to be submitted. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

8. A system shall be inspected prior to any change in type establishment, or change from seasonal use to year round use (which is defined as a facility that is not supplied with a year round approved water source), or after the system has been abandoned, or increase in design flow, or when a condition may impact the functionality of the system, or prior to any

expansion of use of the facility served for which a building permit or occupancy permit form the local building inspector is required. Whenever an addition to an existing structure which changes the footprint of a building with no increase in design flow is proposed, the system shall be assessed to determine the location of all system components, including the reserve area. The proposed construction shall not be placed upon any of the system components or within any applicable setback distances as detailed in 310 CMR 15.211. If official records are available to make a determination regarding the location of system components, an inspection is not required for footprint changes. If there is to be onsite reconstruction in the near future and the septic components need to be re-utilized for another structure, a Title V inspection would be required, unless a current Title V inspection is available. Components must be properly located and marked so not to be damaged during construction. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

9. Garbage disposals, if present, must be removed at time of Title V inspection, with proof of removal attached to report (plumber receipt or picture of sink plumbing). *(adopted 7/1/19)*

10. Completed Title V inspection reports must be submitted within 30 days, including fee and all supplemental documents as required. Title V reports will be reviewed by the Health Agent. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

11. Septic tanks with a capacity of less than 1500 gallons and a concrete baffle on the outlet must be replaced with a 1500-gallon two compartment tank with inlet T and outlet filter installed. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

12. Any Title 5 Inspection or a Disposal Works Construction Permit Application that requires a Certificate of Compliance must have a Current Water Analysis (up to two years old) can be submitted to show water adequacy, provided they include all potability parameters including Nitrates and Arsenic, provided they have been collected objectively by a third party. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*

Perc Test:

1. Maximum 30-minute per inch perc rate for new construction and increases in flow. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

2. Maximum 90-minute per inch perc rate for repairs. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

3. All new construction must include 4 observation holes and 2 perc tests, regardless of configuration (trench or bed). *(adopted 7/1/19)*

4. Additional percolation tests or soil evaluations may be required at the discretion of the Board of Health or Health Agent where the soil characteristics are variable. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

5. Soil tests and percolation tests performed prior to 1995 shall not be valid for use in repairs, upgrades, or new construction. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

6. Mini Excavators are not allowed for soil examinations; the machine must be capable of digging to 10' feet without shelfing (backhoe or excavator). *(adopted 7/1/19)*

7. An observation test hole is required at proposed foundation location. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

8. De-watered percolation tests are not permitted for new construction, increases in flow, or upgrades. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

9. All successful percolation test holes for new construction shall have PVC pipes set in the holes for identification. Pipes shall be min 5 feet long & 3 inches in diameter, with 24 inches above ground with TP # and date of test written in permanent marker. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

10. Percolation tests performed over 10 years prior to submittal of Disposal Works Application will require a confirmatory deep hole, at which time the suitability of the soils will be evaluated by a Massachusetts licensed Soil Evaluator and Witnessed by the Health Agent. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*

Septic Design:

13. If a waiver is requested for groundwater separation, distance to a property line, well, wetlands, or surface water supply, a bedroom deed restriction is required under the authority granted the Board of Health under 310 CMR 15.413. The deed restriction shall stipulate no increase in flow. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

14. All new tanks shall be two compartment tanks; a gas baffle is required on the 1st compartment and an effluent filter is required on the 2nd compartment. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

15. For all upgrades or increases in flow, tanks with less than 1500-gallon capacity must be upgraded to two compartment tanks. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

16. Any increase in flow will require new construction standards including maximum 30-minute per inch perc rate. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

17. A change in the design engineer of record will require Board of Health approval and a sign off by original engineer prior to issuance of the Certificate of Compliance. A waiver may be granted in extenuating circumstances. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

18. The design engineer of record shall be responsible for performing all required inspections and preparation of as-built plan. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

19. Installers shall not perform or prepare the as-built plan. In cases where the installer and the design engineer are the same entity, a separate third-party engineer shall prepare the as-built plan. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

20. Geofabric shall be required for all plastic chamber systems. Fabric is to be placed directly on the chambers unless it contradicts the manufacturer's recommendations. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

21. The four corners of the SAS shall be marked with rebar or iron pipes minimum length 6" inches set below finish grade. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

22. Pumps are prohibited in the 2nd chamber of two compartment tank. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

23. The circuitry for the pump and alarm shall be separate circuits wired directly to the main panel, not a subpanel. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

24. Flow pumped to a distribution box shall enter the distribution box by gravity flow with a 4-inch PVC pipe pitched downward to the distribution box at a pitch of .01 feet/foot for a minimum length of 4 feet. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

25. Effluent filter is mandatory. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

26. Risers are to be installed to within 6" of finish grade on septic tank inlet and distribution box and to grade on the septic tank outlet, and pump chamber outlet. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

27. Setback requirements for bordering vegetative wetlands, salt marshes, inland and coastal banks: septic tank / pump chamber 50', SAS 100'. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

28. Setback requirements for irrigation wells: septic tank / pump chamber 25 feet, SAS 50'feet. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

29. Filling of wetland areas to meet setback requirements is prohibited. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

30. The construction of private wastewater disposal systems shall not be started without the contractor/installer first obtaining a septic installer's permit and a copy of the approved plans from the Board of Health. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

31. A 1"x 4" box shall be reserved on the plan for Board of Health notes and shall be located near the title block. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

32. The Board of Health Office shall be given 24 hours' notice prior to inspection. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

33. The Board of Health shall inspect, at minimum, the following: final excavation/bottom of hole, final construction prior to backfilling, and after minimum required grading is complete. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

34. As-Built drawings must be stamped and signed by the design engineer and must show the location of all system components and piping. Ties from at least two permanent points shall be provided to locate the inlet and outlet covers of the septic tank, pump chamber, grease trap, distribution box, end of leaching trenches, and far corners of leaching fields. All plans

shall contain 2 benchmarks. All invert and foundation elevations and finish grade (by contours) shall be shown. Location of any wells or water supplies on the lot and within 150 feet on adjacent lots must also be shown. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

35. All as-built plan information shall be contained on a single sheet. For all single-family homes, minimum plan size shall be 11" x 17". *(adopted 7/1/19)*

36. In addition to paper copies, all design plans and as-built plans, as well as all supporting documentation, shall be submitted electronically (bearing stamps) in pdf format. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

37. Final grading shall be indicated on the as-built plan. Grading shall be in 1 foot contours with spot grades at the tank, pump chamber, d-box, ends of SAS, and at breakout. Rim elevations shall be indicated for covers brought to grade. If loam is not spread at time of inspection, it shall be noted on the plan. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

38. Garbage grinders are prohibited. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

39. Pump system forcemain shall enter the d-box by gravity flow by a minimum 5 foot length of 4-inch PVC. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

40. No low-profile systems -need minimum 6" below invert. (*adopted 4/14/2022*)

41. Impervious barrier for new construction shall be at least 10' off SAS. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*

42. Any Title 5 Inspection or a Disposal Works Construction Permit Application that requires a Certificate of Compliance must have a Current Water Analysis (up to two years old) can be submitted to show water adequacy, provided they include all potability parameters including Nitrates and Arsenic, provided they have been collected objectively by a third party. *(adopted 4/14/22)*

43. Trees-if grade changed by 12" or more against the trunk, the tree must be cut down as the tree's roots will not get enough oxygen, and the tree will die. *(adopted 4/14/22)*

44. Distribution box-minimum 12" cover. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*

45. If sewer is available, must tie in when Title 5 failure. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*

46. As-built plans must indicate top of impervious barrier, if present. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*

47. As-built certification by engineer that the location, elevations, and final grading comply with Title 5 and Dighton BOH regulations. (*adopted 4/14/2022*)

48. Floor plans are to be submitted with all disposal works construction permit applications. (*adopted 4/14/2022*)

Shared System Requirements:

1. The reserve area shall be constructed at time of installation for all community septic systems. The reserve area installation must be completed prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance. The reserve area shall be constructed to the same specifications as the active system with piping connected and ready to receive effluent, with a gate valve, which can be turned to activate flow to the reserve area and cease flow to the active system. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

2. Each individual home shall have a separate septic tank per current regulations. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

3. Homeowners Association documents shall include provisions for individual septic tanks to be pumped every two years, deed restrictions for the number of bedrooms, and deed restrictions prohibiting garbage grinders. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

Well Installations:

1. If connected to town water, the drinking well must be disconnected from the house. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

2. If any contaminant exceeds the MCL levels during testing, a re-test from the kitchen faucet is required prior to occupancy. Filtration may be necessary. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

3. GPS coordinates are to be provided for all installed wells. *(adopted 7/1/19)*

4. For wells with Nitrates or coliform, a whole house filtration system will be required. *(adopted 4/14/2022)*