



NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ON-SITE SANITARY SYSTEM ABANDONMENT PROCEDURES

1. SANITARY SYSTEM LIQUIDS:

- a. A sample of the liquid contents from the sanitary system must be obtained and analyzed for pH, RCRA heavy metals, volatile organic compounds (EPA 624) and semi-volatile organic compounds (EPA 625) as per the requirements of Nassau County Department of Public Works (NCDPW) to determine the disposal method and location.

- b. The results of these analyses and the approximate volume of liquid waste to be pumped must be submitted to:

Pat Assalone
Cedar Creek W.P.C.P.
3340 Merrick Road
Wantagh, NY 11793
Phone: 516) 571-6887

And

Carlos Pareja
Bureau of Environmental Protection
Nassau County Department of Health
200 County Seat Drive
Mineola, NY 11501
Phone: (516) 227-9467

- c. Liquid waste from all septic tanks and leaching pools must be removed and disposed of in compliance with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requirements and standards.

2. SANITARY SYSTEM SOLIDS:

- a. A sample of the solid contents from the bottom of the sanitary leaching pool must be obtained and analyzed by a New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) certified laboratory (See Section 5). This is an initial sample that is taken to determine the chemical composition of the sanitary systems solid contents.

- b. Submit initial sample laboratory results to The Nassau County Department of Health (NCDH). NCDH will evaluate the results and determine if the sanitary system requires remedial cleaning prior to backfilling.



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200 COUNTY SEAT DRIVE, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501
Telephone: (516) 227-9692 Fax: (516) 227-9613



- c. If initial sample results indicate that contamination is present in the sanitary system, the following steps must be performed until remediation is complete:
- i. Prepare a Closure Plan in accordance with the abandonment procedures outlined herein. The plan must include a site diagram, a description of the private sanitary system, initial sediment sampling results and a description of the closure actions to be taken. The plan must be accompanied by a \$160.00 plan review fee made payable to the "The Nassau County Department of Health". Remedial field work cannot commence until the plan is reviewed and approved by the NCDH.
 - ii. Remove sludge from septic tank (if tank present). Remove sludge and soils from the sanitary leaching pool until a condition of visibly clean is achieved. It may be necessary to remove the dome in order to effectively clean out the bottom of the leaching pool. Based on visual observations during excavation, it shall be NCDH's discretion whether to require the removal of the leaching pool (concrete rings or blocks) and any additional contaminated material.
 - iii. Test and dispose of the sludge and soils in compliance with NYSDEC and/or USEPA requirements and standards. All waste manifests must be forwarded to NCDH after disposal of sludge and soils are complete.
 - iv. An endpoint soil sample must be obtained and analyzed by a NYSDOH certified laboratory. This sample must be taken to determine the effectiveness of the remedial action. The NCDH also reserves the right to require collection of a groundwater sample in addition to the endpoint soil sample if groundwater is encountered during the soil excavations (see section 5).
 - v. Submit endpoint sample results to NCDH. If the endpoint sample results indicate remaining contamination, NCDH reserves the right to require additional remedial action, monitoring wells and related studies.

3. FINAL ABANDONMENT:

All septic tanks and leaching pools must be backfilled with clean, inert material. All metal castings and covers must be removed and disposed of off-site. The septic tank and leaching pools must then be sealed with 5-inch thick pre-cast concrete cover. NCDH approval must be obtained prior to backfilling.

4. NASSAU COUNTY NOTIFICATION:

The NCDH must be notified at least five (5) business days in advance of any field activities or sampling so the work can be witnessed by NCDH personnel (516) 227-9692. NCDH reserves the right not to accept any laboratory results from sampling not witnessed by NCDH.

5. SAMPLING AND LABORATORY ANALYSIS:

- a. NCDH reserves the right to split any or all samples.
- b. Sampling and analysis must be in accordance with USEPA quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) guidelines. Samplers must be prepared on the day of sampling with proper sampling equipment, sampling containers and supplies for proper decontamination procedures. For reference, we suggest the USEPA guide "Sampling for Hazardous Materials," Part C "Soil and Sediment Sampling Methods."
- c. Sample analysis must be performed by a NYSDOH certified laboratory.
- d. Sample analysis of initial and end point soil/sludge samples must include the following parameters:
 1. Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (USEPA Method 8015)
 2. Total Analysis for 8 RCRA Metals (USEPA Method 6010).
 3. Volatile Organic Compounds and Semi Volatile Organic Compounds (USEPA Methods 8260 and 8270).
- e. Groundwater samples, when required, must be analyzed for the above parameters in accordance with appropriate USEPA methods.
- f. Copies of the sample analyses must be forwarded to NCDH within 5 working days of receipt by the responsible party.

6. REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION:

- a. If cleanup of the site to ambient soil and/or groundwater conditions cannot be achieved via excavation, NCDH reserves the right to require an investigation to define the extent of vertical and areal contamination with the goal of implementing an acceptable plan of remediation in a timely manner.

7. WASTE STORAGE:

- a. Any liquids stored on site must be placed in properly sealed and labeled Department of Transportation (DOT) approved 55-gallon drums.
- b. Any sludge which is not immediately moved off site must be stored in either properly sealed and labeled DOT approved 55-gallon drums or a sealed roll-off container.
- c. Soil which is stockpiled on site must be placed on and securely covered by a heavy gauge plastic liner. Stockpiled soil must be secured to prevent any handling of material or tampering by unauthorized personnel.
- d. Strict adherence to time limits for storage of industrial and hazardous wastes must be followed.

8. WASTE DISPOSAL

- a. All industrial, toxic and hazardous wastes removed from the remediation site are to be handled by an appropriate waste transporter registered with the NYSDEC and disposed of at a NYSDEC or USEPA approved disposal facility.
- b. Copies of all disposal sampling results and disposal manifests associated with the remedial action must be sent to NCDH within 5 business days of receipt by the responsible party.

9. SAFETY:

- a. All work performed in conjunction with a Private Sewer System Abandonment must be in compliance with OSHA standards and Federal regulations as stipulated in 29 CFR Part 1910.
- b. The contractor performing the work on site is responsible for ensuring that all personnel and the general public are protected from harm and nuisance resulting from all sewer system abandonment activity.
- c. If a NCDH representative considers the work conditions to be unsafe, the representative may advise the contractor that work is to stop pending the resolution of unsafe conditions. NCDH accepts no responsibility for contractors or their employees in the performance of this work.
- d. The structural integrity of all excavations and any surrounding structures should be certified by a licensed professional engineer prior to or during excavation.

If you wish to schedule work or have any questions regarding these procedures, please contact the NCDH Bureau of Environmental Protection at (516) 227-9692.

(963A)

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