

Private Sewer Collection Systems - 15A NCAC 02T .0403 Permitting by Regulation Guidance Document

15A NCAC 02T .0403 PERMITTING BY REGULATION

(a) Collection systems having an actual, permitted or Division-approved average daily flow less than 200,000 gallons per day shall be deemed permitted, pursuant to Rule .0113 of this Subchapter if the system meets the criteria in Rule .0113 of this Subchapter and all criteria required in this Rule:

- (1) The collection system shall be effectively maintained and operated at all times to prevent discharge to land or surface waters and to prevent any contravention of groundwater standards or surface water standards.
- (2) A map of the collection system shall have been developed and shall be maintained.
- (3) An operation and maintenance plan, including pump station inspection frequency, preventative maintenance schedule, spare parts inventory, and overflow response shall have been developed and implemented.
- (4) Pump stations that are not connected to a telemetry system shall be inspected by the permittee or its representative every day, 365 days per year, unless the permittee demonstrates that daily inspections are not necessary because the pump station has sufficient storage capacity, above the elevation at which the pump activates, to justify a longer inspection interval. In no case shall the inspection interval exceed seven days. Pump stations that are connected to a telemetry system shall be inspected once per week.
- (5) High-priority sewers shall be inspected by the permittee or its representative once every six-months, and inspections shall be documented.
- (6) A general observation by the permittee or its representative of the entire collection system shall be conducted once per year.
- (7) Overflows and bypasses shall be reported to the appropriate Division regional office in accordance with 15A NCAC 02B .0506(a), and public notice shall be provided as required by G.S. 143-215.1C.
- (8) A Grease Control Program shall be in place as follows:
 - (A) For publicly owned collection systems, the Grease Control Program shall include bi-annual distribution of educational materials for both commercial and residential users and the legal means to require grease interceptors for new construction and retrofit and if necessary, of grease interceptors at existing establishments. The plan shall also include legal means for inspections of the grease interceptors, enforcement for violators and the legal means to control grease entering the system from other public and private satellite collection systems.
 - (B) For privately owned collection systems, the Grease Control Program shall include bi-annual distribution of grease education materials to users of the collection system by the permittee or its representative.
 - (C) Grease education materials shall be distributed more often than required in Parts (A) and (B) of this Subparagraph if necessary to prevent grease-related sanitary sewer overflows.
- (9) Right-of-ways and easements shall be maintained in the full easement width for personnel and equipment accessibility.
- (10) Documentation of compliance with Subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(9) of this Rule shall be maintained by the collection system owner for three years with the exception of the map, which shall be maintained for the life of the system.

(b) Private collection systems on a single property serving an industrial facility from which the domestic wastewater contribution is less than 200,000 gallons per day shall be deemed permitted.

(c) The Director may determine that a collection system shall not be deemed to be permitted in accordance with this Rule and Rule .0113 of this Subchapter. This determination shall be made in accordance with Rule .0113(e) of this Subchapter.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 143-215.1(a); 143-215.3(a); 143-215.9B;
Eff. September 1, 2006;
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1) The collection system shall be effectively maintained and operated at all times to prevent discharge to land or surface waters, and any contravention of the groundwater standards or surface water standards.

Guidance: Annual cleaning by a qualified individual or company is recommended. Be certain that any debris that is dislodged as a result of cleaning is captured and removed from the system to prevent downgradient blockages in both your system and the public sewer system. It is requested that you notify Charlotte Water prior to the initiation of system cleaning.

2) A map of the collection system shall have been developed and shall be maintained.

Guidance: An adequate map of the collection system may include as-built plumbing plans for the community, a site plan, or an aerial map provided that all components of the system such as manholes, pump stations and aerial sewer lines (lines that are elevated and cross a surface water stream or creek) are depicted. The map should also indicate flow direction.

3) An operation and maintenance plan, including pump station inspection frequency, preventative maintenance schedule, spare parts inventory, and overflow response shall have been developed and implemented.

Guidance: An adequate written operation and maintenance (O&M) plan should generally describe the measures that will be taken to comply with the collection system regulatory requirements including but not limited to:

- pump station inspection frequency (if applicable - see requirement # 4);
- preventative maintenance schedule that describes system inspection frequency, including an inspection check-list, in addition to system cleaning schedules (see requirements # 5 and # 6);
- a list of spare parts needed to ensure proper system operation;
- procedures for responding to and reporting sewer overflows (see requirement #8).

4) Pump stations that are not connected to a telemetry system (i.e., remote alarm system) shall be inspected by the permittee or its representative every day, 365 days per year... Pump stations that are connected to a telemetry system shall be inspected at least once per week.

Guidance: If the private collection system includes a pump station, inspections should be documented in an inspection log book or form. These inspections should include testing any alarms, level control floats, and pumps to ensure the telemetry system is working correctly. Also, an alternate power source should be accessible in the event the power to the pump station is interrupted.

5) High-priority sewer lines shall be inspected... at least once every six months and inspections shall be documented.

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Guidance: High-priority sewer lines are defined as lines that cross over streams or ditches or are located in a stream channel. When inspecting such lines, the inspector should evaluate any fittings/couplings, supporting piers, and the general stability of the line.

6) A general observation...of the entire sewer system shall be conducted once per year.

Guidance: A general observation of the system should include removing manhole covers to observe flow conditions and inspecting for the presence of debris or build-up. Conditions observed should be documented on an inspection form and corrective actions taken as necessary.

7) Inspection and maintenance records shall be maintained for a period of at least three years with the exception of the system map, which shall be maintained for the life of the system.

Guidance: The inspection and maintenance records should be available upon request by the regulating authorities.

8) Overflows and bypasses shall be reported to the appropriate Division Regional Office...

Guidance: Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) must be reported to the Mooresville Regional Office of DWQ at (704) 663-1699. You may report SSOs after business hours to the NC Emergency Management Call Center at (800) 858-0368.

9) A Grease Control Program shall be in place as follows...

Guidance: For privately owned collection systems the Grease Control Program shall include at least biannual distribution of educational materials to users of the collection system by the permittee or its representative. Grease education materials shall be distributed more often if necessary to prevent grease related sanitary overflows. Educational materials may be obtained by contacting Charlotte Water at (704-391-4685 or 704-336-4946). Educational materials should be distributed/posted twice per year.

10) Right-of-ways and easements are maintained in the full easement width for personnel and equipment accessibility.

Guidance: In order to conduct adequate system inspections and to perform necessary system maintenance, it is important that easements and right-of-ways are maintained for easy access. Underbrush and tree saplings should be removed from these areas.