

**Salt Lake County
Health Regulation
#13**

WASTEWATER DISPOSAL

**Adopted by the Salt Lake County Board of Health
February 6, 1986**

**Amended:
August 3, 2006
September 5, 2013
November 7, 2024**

**Under Authority of
Utah Code Ann. §§ 26A-1-109(8), 26A-1-114, 26A-1-121(2)**

1. PURPOSE & APPLICABILITY OF REGULATION

- 1.1. The purpose of this Regulation is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Salt Lake County and protect the environment through the regulation of illegal discharge of wastewater and pollutants to the maximum extent practicable as required by federal, state, and local law.
- 1.2. This Regulation establishes methods for controlling pollution as defined herein. The objectives of this Regulation are:
 - 1.2.1. To mandate connections of buildings to a public sewer system when the sewer is available to property;
 - 1.2.2. To permit and regulate the installation and use of onsite wastewater systems, alternative onsite wastewater systems, wastewater holding tanks and pressure-distribution systems;
 - 1.2.3. To require and regulate toilet facilities; and
 - 1.2.4. To prohibit the illegal discharge of wastewater.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following terms, phrases, and words shall have the meanings herein expressed:

- 2.1. “Absorption system” means a device constructed to receive and to distribute effluent in such a manner that the effluent is effectively filtered and retained below ground surface.
- 2.2. “Alternative onsite wastewater system” means an onsite wastewater system utilizing a treatment process or absorption system that is not utilized in a conventional onsite wastewater system. Treatment processes may include packed bed media, or a membrane bioreactor. Absorption systems may include At-Grade, Mound, Sand Lined Trench, or Drip Irrigation. Alternative systems are utilized when a conventional system could not be installed to meet regulatory requirements or when part of a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan.
- 2.3. “At-grade system” means an alternative onsite wastewater system where the bottom of the absorption system is placed at or below the elevation of the existing site grade, and the top of the distribution pipe is above the elevation of existing site grade, and the absorption system is contained within fill that extends above that grade.
- 2.4. “Black water” means wastewater contaminated by human body waste, toilet paper, and any other material intended to be deposited in a receptor designed to receive urine or feces.

- 2.5. “Board” means the Salt Lake County Board of Health.
- 2.6. “Contract Service Provider” means any individual that-oversees the routine maintenance, operation, and sampling of an alternative onsite wastewater system or pressure distribution system.
- 2.6.1. A Contract Service Provider shall be Level 3 Certified Onsite System Professional in accordance with Utah Administrative Code R317-11.
- 2.7. “Conventional onsite wastewater system” means an onsite wastewater system which consists of a building sewer, a septic tank, and an absorption system utilizing absorption trenches, absorption beds, deep wall trenches or seepage pits.
- 2.8. “Department” means the Salt Lake County Health Department (SLCoHD).
- 2.9. “Director” means the Director of the Salt Lake County Health Department or his or her designated representative.
- 2.10. “Discharge” means the accidental or intentional releasing, spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of any solid waste or solid waste constituents, wastewater, including leachate, into or on any air, land, or water.
- 2.11. “Human waste” means the waste produced by the human body; including but not limited to urine or fecal matter or both.
- 2.12. “Liquid Waste Hauler” means a person with a waste water tank in or on the vehicle or trailer with the ability to haul sludge, liquid waste, semi-liquid waste, or used oil.
- 2.13. “Malfunctioning or failing system” means an onsite wastewater system that is not functioning in compliance with the requirements of this regulation and may include:
- 2.13.1. Absorption systems that seep or flow to the surface of the ground or into waters of the state;
- 2.13.2. Systems that overflow from any of their components;
- 2.13.3. Systems that, due to failure to operate in accordance with their designed operation, cause backflow into any portion of a building drainage system;
- 2.13.4. Systems discharging effluent that does not comply with applicable effluent discharge standards;
- 2.13.5. Leaking septic tanks; or
- 2.13.6. Noncompliance with standards stipulated on or by the construction permit, operating permit, or both.

- 2.14. “Membrane Bioreactor” means an alternative onsite wastewater system that includes both biological processes and mechanical filtration processes to treat septic tank effluent before discharge to an absorption system. A membrane bioreactor unit includes a balance tank, an aeration tank and a filtration tank. All tanks are interconnected with aeration pumps and recirculation lines.
- 2.15. “Mound system” means an alternative onsite wastewater system where the bottom of the absorption system is placed above the elevation of the original site, and the absorption system is contained in a mounded fill body above that grade.
- 2.16. “Onsite Wastewater System” means an underground wastewater disposal system that is designed for capacity of 5,000 gallons per day or less, and is not designed to serve multiple dwelling units owned by separate owners except condominiums. It usually consists of a building sewer, a septic tank and an absorption system.
- 2.17. “Operating Permit” means the permit that authorizes the operation and maintenance of an alternative onsite wastewater system, pressurized distribution and/or a wastewater holding tank.
- 2.18. “Owner” means any person who alone, jointly, or severally with others:
- 2.18.1. Has legal title to any onsite wastewater system or premises, with or without accompanying actual possession thereof; or
 - 2.18.2. Has charge, care, or control of any onsite wastewater system or premises, as legal or equitable owner, tenant, licensee, or agent of the owner, or an executor, executrix, administrator, administratrix, trustee, or guardian of the estate of the owner.
- 2.19. “Packed Bed Media System” means an alternative onsite wastewater system that uses natural or synthetic media to treat wastewater. Biological treatment is facilitated via microbial growth on the surface of the media. The system may include a pump tank and/or a recirculation tank.
- 2.20. “Person” means any individual; public or private corporation and its officers, partnership, association, firm, trustee, executor of an estate; the state or its departments, institutions, bureaus, or agencies; any municipal corporation, county, city, political subdivision; or any other legal entity recognized by law.
- 2.21. “Pressure Distribution” means a method designed to uniformly distribute effluent under pressure within an absorption system.
- 2.22. “Pollution” means such contamination, or other alternation of the physical, chemical, or biological properties of any waters of the state, or such discharge of any liquid, gaseous or solid substance into any waters of the state as will create a nuisance or render such

waters harmful or detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare, or to domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, or other legitimate beneficial uses, or to livestock, wild animals, birds, fish or other aquatic life.

- 2.23. “Publicly-Owned Treatment Works” or “POTW Entity” means a political subdivision of the State of Utah located entirely or partly within Salt Lake County which owns and/or operates a facility for the treatment of sewage whereby sewage is rendered less harmful or objectionable or less of a health hazard.
- 2.24. “Sewage” means a combination of the liquid or water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, and other establishments with installed plumbing facilities, together with those from industrial establishments, and with such ground water, surface water, and storm water as may be present.
- 2.25. “Sewer or Sewer System” means pipes, channels, or other facilities used for the collection, transmission, treatment, and/or disposal of sewage by a POTW.
- 2.26. “Sewer Connection Availability” means approval from a sewer district for the connection to an approved sewer system.
- 2.27. “Substance” means any physical matter, including any solid, liquid, or gas whatsoever.
- 2.28. “Surface Water” means any water running, standing, or found on or within five inches of the surface of the ground.
- 2.29. “Unapproved System” means any onsite wastewater system that is deemed by the Department to be any installation, repair, or alteration to any existing system without the required regulatory oversight, permits, or inspections.
- 2.30. “Waste” or “Pollutant” means dredged soil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water.
- 2.31. “Wastewater” means sewage, industrial waste, or other liquid or waterborne substances causing or capable of causing pollution of waters of the state. Intercepted groundwater which is uncontaminated by wastes is not included.
- 2.32. “Wastewater holding tank” means a watertight receptacle designed to receive and store wastewater to facilitate treatment at another location.
- 2.33. “Waters of the State” means (a) all streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, water-courses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation systems, drainage systems, and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, public or private, which are contained within, flow through, or border upon this state or any portion of the state; and (b) does not include bodies of water confined to and retained within the limits

of private property, and which do not develop into or constitute a nuisance, or a public health hazard, or a menace to fish or wildlife.

2.34. “Watershed Area” means the area defined in the Department’s Health Regulation #14, Watersheds.

2.35. “Watershed Letter” means written approval under the Department’s Regulation #14, Watersheds, section 4.5.

2.36. “Watershed Septic System” means a septic system located within a Watershed Area and designed to meet the specifications of section 4.8 of this regulation.

3. GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1. Jurisdiction of the Department.

3.1.1. This Regulation is promulgated by the Salt Lake County Board of Health as authorized by Utah Code Ann. § 26A-1-121(1), and Chapter 9.04, Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances.

3.1.2. The Department is empowered to enforce this Regulation in all incorporated and unincorporated areas served by the Department as authorized by Utah Code Ann. § 26A-1-114(1) (a), and Chapter 9.04, Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances.

3.2. Except as otherwise provided, it shall be unlawful for any person not to comply with any regulation promulgated by the Department unless granted an express variance by the Salt Lake County Board of Health.

3.3. Compliance with this Regulation does not constitute a defense if charged with any environmental crime or violation of any local, state, or federal law.

3.4. Legal action taken by the Department under this Regulation does not preclude prosecution for any environmental crime that may have been committed or violation of any other local, state, or federal law.

3.5. Nothing in this Regulation affects or modifies in any way the obligations or liability of any person under any other Regulation or provision thereof issued by the Department, any ordinance issued by Salt Lake County or any municipality located within Salt Lake County, or any state or federally issued law, including common law. However, Departmental Regulations supersede other existing local and county standards, Regulations and ordinances pertaining to similar subject matter that are inconsistent.

3.6. **Severance.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Regulation is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Regulation.

4. SUBSTANTIVE PROVISIONS

4.1. **Allowed Onsite Wastewater Systems.** Only systems approved under Utah Administrative Code R317-4 are allowed in Salt Lake County.

- 4.1.1. **Membrane Bioreactors.** Membrane bioreactor components shall only be installed inside a service building or underground outside a residence. Any service building constructed for housing any membrane bioreactor shall be at least 5 feet from any dwelling and shall be structurally sound and shall be insulated to maintain an appropriate operating temperature. The service building shall never be constructed above the septic tank.
- 4.1.2. **Experimental Systems.** Systems not approved under R317-4 may be considered on a case-by-case basis following the requirements of Utah Administrative Code R317-4-9 Experimental Systems. Experimental Systems are not allowed within Watershed Areas.

4.2. Permits Required.

- 4.2.1. **Department Approval and Onsite Wastewater Permit Required.** No person shall install, construct, alter, replace, enlarge, extend, or otherwise modify any onsite wastewater system unless a valid onsite wastewater permit or alternative onsite wastewater system permit is issued by the Department. No person shall construct, occupy, or own a building that has an onsite wastewater disposal system; install or replace a wastewater holding tank, replace an existing septic tank, replace an existing absorption system, or remodel a building to which an onsite wastewater system is connected in such a way that increases the bedroom count without prior written approval and a corresponding valid Onsite Wastewater Permit.
- 4.2.2. **Conventional Onsite Wastewater Permit Application.**
 - (i) To apply for a Conventional Onsite Wastewater Permit when constructing a building that has an onsite wastewater disposal system or to replace an existing absorption system, the applicant shall:
 - a. Submit a completed Department provided application form;
 - b. Pay all the applicable fees;
 - c. Submit written documentation from the sewer district which has jurisdiction where the property is located, stating that sewer service is not available;

- d. Submit written documentation of drinking water availability. If a public water system is providing water service, a letter of availability shall be provided. If an individual water system is providing water service, documentation that the system meets the quality, quantity and pressure requirements of Health Regulation #11 shall be provided;
 - e. Cause percolation tests and soil explorations to be performed by a certified professional in the areas of the primary and replacement absorption system. At least 24 hours prior to performing the tests, the Department shall be notified of the day and time the tests will be performed to give the Department the opportunity to witness the tests; and
 - f. Submit completed plans and specifications pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R317-4-5 to the Department. Plans, percolation tests and/or soil classifications must be performed and designed by a person who is certified as required under Utah Administrative Code R317-11.
- (ii) To apply for an Onsite Wastewater Permit when remodeling a building to which an existing onsite wastewater system is connected in such a way that increases the bedroom count, the applicant shall submit to the Department properly prepared drawings, engineering reports, and design criteria for review and approval.

4.2.3. Alternative Onsite Wastewater System or Pressure Distribution Permit Application.

- (i) To apply for an Alternative Onsite Wastewater System or Pressure Distribution Permit when constructing a building that has an alternative onsite wastewater system or to replace an existing absorption system, the applicant shall:
 - a. Submit a completed Department-provided application form;
 - b. Pay all the applicable fees;
 - c. Submit written documentation from the sewer district which has jurisdiction where the property is located, stating that sewer service is not available;
 - d. Submit written documentation of water availability. If a public water system is providing water service, a letter of availability shall be provided. If an individual water system is providing water service, documentation that the system meets the quality, quantity, and pressure requirement of Health Regulation #11 shall be provided;

- e. Cause percolation tests and soil explorations to be performed by a certified professional in the areas of the primary and replacement absorption systems. At least 24 hours prior to performing the tests, the Department shall be notified of the day and time the tests will be performed to give the Department the opportunity to witness the tests;
 - f. Submit a completed plans and specifications pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R317-4-5 to the Department. Plans, percolation test, and/or soil classifications must be performed and designed by a person who is certified as required under Utah Administrative Code R317-11 and must verify that the system meets the requirements of Utah Administrative Code R317-4;
 - g. Submit evidence that the existence of an alternative onsite wastewater system or pressure distribution system is recorded in the chain of title for the property in a form approved by the Department;
 - h. Submit operation and maintenance instructions to the Department for review; and
 - i. Apply for an Operation Permit as outlined in section 4.5.1 of this regulation.
- (ii) To apply for an Alternative Onsite Wastewater System Permit or Pressure Distribution System Permit when remodeling a building to which an existing onsite wastewater system or alternative onsite wastewater system is connected in such a way that increases the bedroom count, the applicant shall submit to the Department properly prepared drawings, engineering reports, and design criteria for review and approval.
 - (iii) Any individual designing, installing, operating or maintaining an alternative onsite wastewater system or pressure distribution system shall be Level 3 Certified as provided in Utah Administrative Code R317-11.

4.2.4 Holding Tank Permit Application.

- (i) To apply for a Holding Tank Permit for new construction the applicant shall:
 - a. Submit a completed Department-provided application form;
 - b. Pay all the applicable fees;
 - c. Submit written documentation from the sewer district which has

jurisdiction where the property is located, stating that sewer service is not available;

- d. Submit written documentation of water availability. If a public water system is providing water service, a letter of availability shall be provided. If an individual water system is providing water service, documentation that the system meets the quality, quantity, and pressure requirement of Health Regulation #11 shall be provided;
 - e. Submit completed plans and specifications pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R317-4-5 to the Department. Plans must be designed by a person who is certified as required under Utah Administrative Code R317-11; and
 - f. Apply for an Operation Permit as outlined in section 4.5.1 of this regulation.
- (ii) To apply for a Holding Tank Permit to replace an existing septic system that has failed where a replacement absorption system is not practicable the applicant shall:
- a. Submit a completed Department-provided application form;
 - b. Pay all the applicable fees;
 - c. Submit plans and specifications pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R317-4-5 to the Department. Plans must be designed by a person who is certified as required under Utah Administrative Code R317-11.
 - d. Apply for an Operation Permit as outlined in section 4.5.1 of this regulation.
- (iii) This section is not used for a holding tank when required as a component of a Watershed Septic System.

4.2.5 Tank Replacement and Drainfield Repair Permit Application.

- (i) To apply for a Tank Replacement or Drainfield Repair Permit when replacing a septic tank or repairing a drainfield on an approved existing system the applicant shall:
- a. Submit a completed Department-provided application form;
 - b. Pay all the applicable fees;

- c. Submit plans and specifications pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R317-4-5 to the Department. Plans, percolation tests, and/or soil classifications shall be performed and designed by a person who is certified as required under Utah Administrative Code R317-11.

- (ii) Percolation tests and soil exploration are not required for tank replacement.

4.3. **Permit Validity.** All onsite wastewater system permits, alternative onsite wastewater system permits, and pressure distribution permits are valid for two years from the date of issuance. The Department may grant an extension based upon current regulations. The permit holder shall make a request for an extension prior to the permit expiration date.

4.4. **Onsite Wastewater System Construction and Installation.** All conventional onsite wastewater systems, alternative onsite wastewater systems, and pressure distribution systems shall be constructed and installed in accordance with the plans approved by the Department.

4.5. **Operating Permit, Required.** All properties that have an alternative onsite wastewater system, pressure distribution system or wastewater holding tank shall require a valid Operating Permit issued to the owner of the property.

4.5.1. **Operating Permit Application Requirements.** To apply for an Operating Permit the applicant shall:

- (i) Submit a completed Department provided application form; and
- (ii) Record in the chain of title for the property the existence and the type of alternative onsite wastewater system, pressure distribution system, and wastewater holding tank installed.

4.5.2. **Conditions to Maintain an Alternative Onsite Wastewater System and Pressure Distribution Operating Permit.** In order to receive or maintain an alternative onsite wastewater and pressure distribution operating permit, the owner shall:

- (i) Operate and maintain the system as approved;
- (ii) Have the system inspected as required by this Regulation by a Contract Service Provider;
- (iii) Inspect the system as required in Table 1 and Table 2 by a Contract Service Provider;

TABLE 1 – MINIMUM INSPECTION FREQUENCY ^(a)

Type of System	Annual	Semi-annual
Pressure Distribution	X	
At-Grade (first 5 years only)	X	
Mound System	X	
Packed Bed Media		X
Holding Tank	X	
Membrane Bioreactor (MBR)		(b)

NOTES

(a) Or more frequently as directed by the Department.

(b) Membrane Bioreactors shall be inspected quarterly.

TABLE 2 – COMPONENTS ^(a)

Type of System	Septic Tank and Other Tanks.	Distribution or Drop Boxes (if accessible)	Pumps, Float Settings, Control Panel	Pressure Laterals, Absorption Area	Disinfection Unit (c)
Pressure Distribution	X		X	X	
At-Grade	X	X	X	X	
Mound System	X		X	X	
Packed Bed Media	X	X	X	X	X
Holding Tank (b)	X		X		
<u>Membrane Bioreactor</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</u>

NOTES

(a) Inspect other components as directed by the Department.

(b) Including pumping records.

(c) Required for absorption systems installed in excessively permeable soils, or as directed by the Department.

(iv) Submit to the Department the required inspection results within 30 days of the inspection;

(v) Submit to the Department the required sampling results within 30 days of the sample results being received. Sampling shall be completed as required in Table 3;

TABLE 3 – EFFLUENT SAMPLING PARAMETERS

Packed Bed Media System Routine Sampling Parameters Must sample Turbidity, or BOD₅ and TSS.				
Field Testing	Laboratory Testing			
Turbidity	<u>BOD₅</u>	TSS	COD (a)	E. coli
≤20 NTUs	≤25 mg/l	≤25 mg/l	≤75 mg/l	<126/100 ml (b)

NOTES

(a) Chemical oxygen demand (COD) may be used in place of BOD₅.

(b) E. coli testing required when a disinfection unit is installed.

- (vi) Correct any deficiencies noted in the inspections;
- (vii) Correct any conditions that cause a system to malfunction or fail;
- (viii) Provide accessibility to the system components as required by this Regulation;
- (ix) Maintain high ground water observation wells if required;
- (x) Consult with the Department if chemicals arising from a hobby, home industry or other unusual activities are discharged into the system; and
- (xi) Pay all the applicable fees.

4.5.3. **Failure to Sample and Perform the Required Inspections.** Failure to perform the required samples as required in Table 3 may result in the Health Department requiring samples to be taken. Sampling costs will be assessed to the permit holder.

4.5.4. **Failure to Follow the Operation and Maintenance Plan.** Failure to complete and to follow the operation and maintenance plan may result in the property being closed to occupancy and the operating permit being suspended.

4.5.5. **Change of Ownership.** At any time that a property with an Alternative Onsite Wastewater or Pressure Distribution Operating Permit changes ownership, the new owner shall obtain an Alternative Onsite Wastewater or Pressure Distribution Operating Permit within 30 days of the sale of the property.

4.5.6. **Operating Permit Renewal.** An alternative onsite wastewater or pressure distribution operating permit shall be renewed annually 30 days prior to expiration.

- (i) The new operating permit shall begin one calendar day after the old permit expires.

4.5.7. Operating Permit Validity.

- (i) An operating permit shall be valid for one year.
- (ii) At-grade operating permits are required annually for five years if functioning according to design. At-grade systems malfunctioning shall require an operating permit annually for five consecutive years of the system funding according to design.

4.5.8. Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit. A property utilizing a wastewater holding tank shall have a Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit renewed annually. Each holding tank shall have the following completed annually by a Liquid Waste Hauler Licensed by the Department:

- (i) Pumped annually and the records submitted with annual permit renewal;
- (ii) A report of the wastewater holding tank condition;
- (iii) Inspection of the high-water alarm panel and floats as required in Table 2; and
- (iv) Pay all the applicable fees.

4.5.9. Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit, Not Required. A property utilizing a wastewater holding tank prior to September 5, 2013 shall not be required to have an operating permit. At any time that the wastewater holding tank is found to be failing and/or must be replaced the property owner shall meet the requirements in sections 4.2 and 4.5.8.

4.6. Prohibited Acts. It shall be unlawful for any person:

- 4.6.1. To place or conduct any sewage or wastewater into any storm drain system, street, alley, sidewalk, gutter, watercourse, canal, river, stream or other waters of the State of Utah, or in any landscaped area, vacant land, or other place not suited or designated for the disposal of sewage or wastewater.
- 4.6.2. To discharge wastewater into the sanitary sewer, either on or off a job site, without the permission of the owner of the property and the associated POTW. The permit holder shall provide proof of such permission to the Department upon request.

- 4.6.3. Construct or cause to be constructed a septic tank or other privately owned wastewater disposal system on property required to be connected to the sewer system by section 4.11.
- 4.6.4. To not have the required Alternative Onsite Wastewater, Pressure Distribution, or Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit and to not complete the requirements for the operating permit.
- 4.6.5. To construct or cause to be constructed a conventional onsite wastewater system, alternative onsite wastewater system, pressure distribution system, or wastewater holding tank in a Drinking Water Source Protection Zone unless a land use agreement is obtained from the applicable public water system.

4.7. Conventional Onsite Wastewater Disposal System and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Disposal System Maintenance, Inspection, and Sampling. Conventional Onsite wastewater disposal systems and alternative onsite wastewater disposal systems shall be maintained in a manner that prevents the surfacing of sewage, the creation of a nuisance, a public health hazard, or a menace to fish or wildlife.

- 4.7.1. The Department may conduct inspections, testing, and sampling as part of its oversight process.
- 4.7.2. The Department may utilize testing methods to identify failing systems by, but not limited to, the following testing methods:
 - (i) Dye testing, injected through the sanitary drainage system or directly into the septic tank;
 - (ii) Hydraulic testing of the absorption system.
- 4.7.3. Inspection frequency, inspection components, and sampling results shall be completed as required in Tables 1, 2, and 3.

4.8. Onsite Wastewater Systems in the Watershed. Any onsite wastewater system on property in the watershed area shall conform to the Department's Health Regulation #14, Watersheds.

- 4.8.1. For conventional systems all black water discharged from any building on any property in a watershed area shall be discharged into a wastewater holding tank as outlined in Utah Administrative Rule R317-4-10. Septic tanks with absorption systems shall be used for the disposal of other domestic wastewater in a watershed (from sinks, washbowls, bathtubs, washing machines, and dishwashers) in compliance with Utah Administrative Code R317-4.

- 4.8.2. For alternative onsite system where the treated effluent will meet the minimum standards in Table 3 a black water holding tank is not required and all wastewater shall be discharged to the alternative wastewater system.
- 4.8.3. A watershed letter from Salt Lake City Public Utilities shall be issued before an Onsite Wastewater Construction Permit can be issued for a Watershed Septic System.
- 4.9. **Failed Systems.** Failing Onsite Wastewater Systems where the installation of a replacement onsite wastewater system is not practicable a property owner may apply for a wastewater holding tank permit and operating permit.
- 4.10. **Repair of a Malfunctioning or Unapproved System.** Repair to a Malfunctioning or Unapproved system shall be performed in accordance with Utah Admin Code R317-4.3.11
- 4.11. **Mandatory Connection to Sewer.** The wastewater drainage system of each dwelling, building or premises shall receive all wastewater (including but not limited to bathroom, kitchen, and laundry wastes) and shall have a connection to a public sewer except when such sewer is not available or practicable for use, in which case connection shall be connected to an onsite wastewater system found to be adequate and constructed in accordance with the requirements of Utah Administrative Code R317-4.
- 4.11.1. The owner of real property shall connect the building to the sewer system within 60 days after receiving written notice of the sewer connection availability, if any part of the sewer conveyance system is situated within 300 feet of any point of the property line. The Department may waive this section if the property owner can demonstrate substantial and unusual hardship which does not present a significant public health risk.
- 4.11.2. Any subdivision of a parcel of real property shall extend sewer service to the subdivision by multiplying the number of lots by 300 feet per lot. After calculating the sewer extension if any point of the parcel lies within the final extension then all lots in the subdivision shall connect to the sewer service.
- 4.12. **Subsequent Use of Onsite Wastewater Systems, Alternative Onsite Wastewater Systems, Pressure Distribution System and Wastewater Holding Tanks.** If connection to the sewer system is required pursuant to section 4.11, the owner shall, within 30 days of connecting to the sewer, pump and abandon any septic tank, wastewater holding tank, or privy vault; remove any outhouse; fill with earth any cesspool located on his property; and make no further use of those or any other privately owned wastewater disposal system. The abandonment of any septic tank shall be performed in accordance with Utah Administrative Code R317-4. Any pit privy or cesspool shall be backfilled with approximately two feet of compacted earth and mounded slightly to allow for settlement and to prevent depressions for surface ponding of water. Any cesspool, outhouse, septic tank or privy vault that has not been

abandoned on property required to be connected to the sewer system is hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Documentation of the abandonment of any onsite wastewater system shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days of completion.

4.13. Toilet Facilities.

4.13.1. **Required.** The owner(s) or occupant(s) of any building used for human habitation shall install and maintain a toilet in conformance with the provisions of the Department's Regulation #3, section 4.4.2 and the *International Plumbing Code*. It shall be unlawful for any person to establish or maintain any privy, vault privy, or place other than a toilet for the deposit of human waste except as provided in Utah Administrative Code R317-560.

4.13.2. **Required of Construction Contractors.** It shall be the responsibility of the main contractors at any construction site to provide adequate toilet facilities for all workers at the site.

4.13.3. **Required for Events.** Any person responsible for a scheduled event attracting 10 or more individuals to a location where adequate toilet facilities are not otherwise available shall be responsible for providing adequate toilet facilities in accordance with this Regulation.

4.13.4. Emptying.

- (i) **Permanent Facilities.** Any vault, wastewater holding tank, or other approved receptacle used for storage of human waste shall be emptied completely at least once each year by a Liquid Waste Hauler, permitted under the Department's Regulation #1. Additionally, the vault or receptacle shall be completely emptied whenever the level of human waste in such vault or receptacle reaches 75 % of capacity or a point 12 inches or less below any removal or leakage point or the ceiling of such vault or receptacle, whichever point is lower.
- (ii) **Temporary Facilities.** Any person providing a temporary toilet facility shall provide for emptying and hauling of the waste from such facility by a Liquid Waste Hauler, permitted under the Department's Regulation #1 to an approved site as often as needed while the facility is in use and within 24 hours of the termination of the use of the facility.

4.13.5. **Seal.** It shall be unlawful for any person to break or remove any seal placed by the Department upon any closet, urinal, or other place where human waste is deposited or to use any such place so sealed, until the nuisance is abated, and the seal removed.

5. LICENSES, PERMITS, & REGULATORY FEES

- 5.1. The Department may establish and collect appropriate fees for licenses and permits as set out in the Department's Fee Schedule and this Regulation. The Department may collect appropriate fees as set out in the Department's Fee Schedule and in this Regulation for the performance of services, including plan reviews. If information submitted to the Department as required under section 4.2 of this Regulation changes, the applicant shall notify the Department and receive approval prior to altering an onsite wastewater system or an absorption system.
- 5.2. **Conventional Onsite Wastewater Permit Fee.** Any applicant applying for a Conventional Onsite Wastewater Permit as required by section 4.2 of this Regulation shall be required to remit a Conventional Onsite Wastewater Permit Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, upon application and the state imposed New System Fee as required in Utah Code Ann. § 19-5-122.
- 5.3. **Alternative Onsite Wastewater System or Pressure Distribution Permit Fee.** Any applicant applying for an Alternative Onsite Wastewater System or Pressure Distribution Permit as required by section 4.2 of this Regulation shall be required to remit an Alternative Onsite Wastewater System or Pressure Distribution Permit Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule upon application and the state imposed New System Fee as required in Utah Code Ann. § 19-5-122.
- 5.4. **At-Grade System Operating Permit Fee.** Any applicant applying for an At-grade System Operating Permit as required by section 4.5 of this Regulation shall be required to remit an At-grade System Operating Permit Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, upon application and at time of renewal.
- 5.5. **Mound System or Packed Bed Media System Operating Permit Fee.** Any applicant applying for a Mound System or Packed Bed Media System Operating Permit as required by section 4.5 of this Regulation shall be required to remit a Mound System or Packed Bed Media System Operating Permit Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, upon application and at time of renewal.
- 5.6. **Pressure Distribution Operating Permit Fee.** Any applicant applying for a Pressure Distribution Operating Permit as required by section 4.5 of this Regulation shall be required to remit a Pressure Distribution Operating Permit Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, upon application and at time of renewal.
- 5.7. **Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit Fee.** Any applicant applying for a Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit as required by section 4.5 of this Regulation shall be required to remit a Wastewater Holding Tank Operating Permit Fee

of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, upon application and at time of renewal.

- 5.8. **Septic Tank, Drainfield or Wastewater Holding Tank Replacement Fee.** Any applicant applying to replace a septic tank, drainfield or wastewater holding tank as required by section 4.2 of this Regulation shall remit a Septic Tank, Drainfield or Wastewater Holding Tank Replacement Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, upon application.
- 5.9. **Sampling Fee.** Any operating permit holder failing to provide the sampling required by section 4.5.3 of this Regulation shall remit the required sampling fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule and the incurred laboratory costs upon completion and reporting of required sampling by the Department to the operating permit holder.
- 5.10. **Reinspection Fee.** If a reinspection of an onsite wastewater system or absorption system is required under section 6.2 of this Regulation, the permit applicant shall pay a Reinspection Fee of an amount as provided for or as approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule.
- 5.11. **Late Fees.**
- 5.11.1. The Department may impose upon any party subject to this Regulation penalties and charges for failure to timely pay service and license or permit fees as set out in this Regulation. Attorney's fees and collection fees may also be applied.
- 5.11.2. Fees unpaid to the Health Department after one month of the due date will be assessed a penalty of 10% of the outstanding balance. Failure to pay the fees and additional charges after two months of the due date will be assessed an additional penalty of 15% of the outstanding balance including previous penalties. Failure to pay the fees and additional charges after 100 days of the due date will result in suspension of the permit and the right to operate. A fee will be assessed for each returned check.
- 5.12. Unless otherwise provided for in this Regulation or approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, all fees collected by the Department are non-refundable. All licenses and permits issued by the Department are non-transferable.
- 5.13. **Denial, Suspension, or Revocation of License or Permit.** Any permit applied for or issued pursuant to this Regulation may be denied, suspended, or revoked by the Department for any of the following reasons:
- 5.13.1. Failure of the applicant to show that the onsite wastewater system will be designed, installed, and operated in accordance with the requirements of this Regulation;

- 5.13.2. Submission of incorrect, incomplete, or false information in the application;
 - 5.13.3. Failure to pay applicable fees;
 - 5.13.4. The onsite wastewater system will be in violation of law;
 - 5.13.5. Failure of the owner or operator of the onsite wastewater system to allow the Department to conduct inspections as necessary to determine compliance with this Regulation;
 - 5.13.6. Operation of an onsite wastewater system in a way that causes or creates a hazard to the public health, safety, or welfare;
 - 5.13.7. Failure to operate or maintain the onsite wastewater system in accordance with the application, report, plans, and specifications approved by the Department; or
 - 5.13.8. Failure to install the onsite wastewater system according to the Department approved plans.
 - 5.13.9. Failure to comply with any provision of this Regulation.
- 5.14. Unless otherwise provided for in this Regulation or approved by the Director in the Department's Fee Schedule, all fees collected by the Department are non-refundable. All licenses and permits issued by the Department are non-transferable.

6. INSPECTIONS & INVESTIGATIONS

- 6.1. To ensure compliance, the Department has the authority to perform inspections, investigations, reviews, and other actions as necessary.
- 6.2. **Onsite Wastewater System Inspection.** Compliance with applicable rules and this Regulation shall be determined by an on-site inspection by the Department after construction but before backfilling. A 48 hour notice shall be made to the Department when the system is ready for inspection. If the Department must inspect an onsite wastewater system or absorption system due to a determination upon the prior inspection that the system has not met the requirements of this Regulation or the system's approved plans, the applicant shall be required to remit the Reinspection Fee stated in section 5.10. A reinspection fee may also be required when the number of routine construction inspections of the system exceed three.
- 6.3. **Authority for Department to Enter Premises.**
 - 6.3.1. **Regulated Commercial Premises.** Upon presenting proper identification, authorized representatives of the Department may enter upon the premises of properties regulated by the Department to perform routine inspections to ensure compliance with rules, standards, regulations, and ordinances adopted by the

Department, the Departments of Health & Environmental Quality, county or municipal governing bodies, or the division of Occupational and Professional Licensing.

6.3.2. **Unregulated Commercial Premises.** The Department may enter upon the premises of unregulated commercial properties upon the consent of the owner or otherwise responsible party or upon a warrant issued by a court.

6.3.3. **Private Dwellings.** Inspections of private dwellings are made with the consent of the owner or otherwise responsible party or upon a warrant issued by a court.

6.3.4. **Consent by License or Permit:** The Department may require licensees or permittees to consent to access for inspections as part of their license or permit. Failure to allow access for inspections as set out in the license or permit may result in the suspension or revocation of the license or permit.

6.4. The owner or other responsible person may request information gathered by the Department during an investigation, inspection or review pursuant to the Government Records Access and Management Act, Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-2-101 to -901.

7. **ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS.** If the Department has investigated or inspected any property or facility and believes the property owner or other responsible party is in violation of this Regulation or the Department has other reasonable grounds to believe that there has been a violation of any part of this Regulation or that the property owner or otherwise responsible party is not in compliance with this Regulation, the Department may take civil enforcement action as authorized by statute, rule, ordinance, and regulation and may also refer the matter for criminal prosecution. Civil enforcement may involve court or administrative actions, injunctive actions, and closures and may involve cost recovery, penalties, and other remedies. Civil and criminal actions may be brought simultaneously. A person does not need to be first adjudged liable in a civil matter before facing criminal charges.

7.1. **Criminal Enforcement Actions.** The Department may recommend criminal prosecution for environmental violations either alone or in conjunction with civil enforcement. Criminal prosecutions for environmental violations of state or federal law may be filed by the District Attorney, Utah Attorney General, United States Department of Justice, or other enforcement entity. Factors that the Department may consider in recommending criminal enforcement include the following factors and any other relevant factors.

7.1.1. The nature and seriousness of the offense including the immediacy of the threat of danger to the life or safety of another or the harm or threatened harm to human health or environment;

- 7.1.2. The degree to which the violation was designed to provide economic gain or cost avoidance or it involved a pattern of conduct or a common attitude of illegal conduct;
- 7.1.3. The degree to which the offender is a known violator and has avoided prior actions by the department;
- 7.1.4. The degree to which prosecution might deter future violations;
- 7.1.5. The person's actual culpability in connection with the offense including the presence in connection with the offense including the presence of criminal intent;
- 7.1.6. The person's willingness to cooperate in the investigation including whether the violator has attempted to conceal evidence or prosecution of others;
- 7.1.7. The appropriateness of referring the case to other agencies having prosecutorial interest; and
- 7.1.8. Possibilities of civil remedies which would be more appropriate than initiating the criminal justice process.

7.2. **Civil Enforcement Actions.**

- 7.2.1. The Department may request that the District Attorney bring an action to restrain or enjoin actions in violation of public health, environmental laws, and other laws or abate conditions in violation of such laws.
- 7.2.2. **Strict Liability.** Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, any person violating any provision of this section may be found guilty without regard to fault, knowledge, intent, or the state of mind of the person committing the violation.

7.3. **Administrative Actions.**

- 7.3.1. The Department may, at its discretion, issue a Notice of Violation & Order of Compliance (NOV).
- 7.3.2. **Service of NOV.** The Department may provide notice to the owner of the property or otherwise responsible person by sending the NOV via first class mail to the last known address of the owner of the property or other responsible person. If notice is returned undeliverable, the owner of the property or other responsible person may be personally served or be given notice by other methods reasonably calculated to give actual notice to the owner or other responsible party.
- 7.3.3. **Contents of NOV.** The NOV shall:
 - (i) Describe the property and the persons believed to be in violation;

- (ii) Describe the violation;
- (iii) Describe remedial action that will comply with the provisions of this Regulation;
- (iv) Set a reasonable time for the performance of any required remedial action(s);
- (v) Describe the procedure to contest the NOV and the time limits for such a contest; and
- (vi) Notify the owner or other responsible person that if no written contest is filed within the time required, the NOV will become final and unappealable to any administrative entity or court.

7.3.4. **Challenging an NOV.** As detailed in the Department's Adjudicative Hearing Procedures, a party aggrieved by an NOV may request a departmental conference, or departmental appeal in writing within 10 days of the date of the NOV.

7.3.5. **Departmental Conference, Settlement Agreements, and Stipulations & Orders.**

- (i) After issuance of the NOV, the alleged violator has the option to request and attend a Departmental Conference to discuss the NOV and settlement with the Department and its legal counsel. No hearing officer will be present. The process of requesting a Departmental Conference is more fully described in the Department's Adjudicative Hearing Procedures.
- (ii) If the parties agree to a settlement, the Department will prepare, in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, a binding Settlement Agreement or Stipulation & Consent Order which may require the payment of penalties and the costs of investigation. Parties may also agree to a settlement at any time subsequent to the Departmental Conference. After signing a Settlement Agreement or Stipulation & Consent Decree, the parties waive all rights to further department and court hearings or appeals. Settlement Agreements or Stipulation & Consent orders may be enforced in state courts.

7.3.6. **Hearings & Appeals.** Parties Aggrieved by an NOV may also request a Departmental Hearing or a Departmental Appeal. A hearing officer is present at these proceedings and makes a written determination. The methods of challenging an NOV are more fully described in the Department's Adjudicative Hearing Procedures. Departmental Appeal Orders may be appealed to the entities and within the time limits set out in the Department's Adjudicative Hearing Procedures.

7.3.7. **Failing to respond to an NOV.** If a party fails to respond to an NOV within the required time, the NOV becomes a final order unappealable to any administrative entity or court. The Department may then enforce the order in state court.

7.4. **Additional Administrative Enforcement Authority.**

7.4.1. The Department may declare unsanitary conditions a nuisance and cause every nuisance affecting the public health to be abated.

7.4.2. Any variances allowed by the Department to the requirements of this Regulation shall be only by written approval of the Board.

7.4.3. **Exercise of Physical Control.** The Department may establish, maintain, and exercise physical control over property and over individuals as the Department finds necessary for the protection of the public health including but not limited to closing theaters, schools, and other public or private places and prohibit public gatherings. The order shall be effective immediately. Any person to whom the order is directed shall comply immediately but may petition the Director for a hearing in accordance with the Adjudicative Hearing Procedures. After the hearing and depending upon the findings as to whether the person has complied with the provisions of this Regulation, the Director shall continue the order in effect or modify or revoke it.

7.4.4. **Seal.** The Director may condemn as a nuisance and seal up and forbid the use of any water closet, urinal, or other receptacle into which human waste is deposited if it is not equipped and maintained as provided by law or if any water closet or tank is not cleaned and the contents thereof not hauled away or disposed after notice is given to the owner or occupant of the premises within the time designated on the notice.

7.4.5. **Emergency Enforcement.** If the Director finds that an emergency exists that requires immediate action to protect the public health, the Director may without notice or hearing issue an order declaring the existence of an emergency and requiring that action be taken as he or she deems necessary to meet the emergency. The order shall be effective immediately. Any person to whom the order is directed shall comply and abate the nuisance immediately; but may petition the Director for a hearing in accordance with the Department's Adjudicative Hearing Procedures. After the hearing and depending upon the findings as to whether the person has complied with the provisions of this Regulation, the Director shall continue the order in effect or modify or revoke it. If circumstances warrant because of the seriousness of the hazard, the Department may act to correct or abate the emergency without issuance of an order or directive or without waiting for the expiration of compliance time previously given in an order.

8. **CRIMINAL, CIVIL & ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES**

8.1. Criminal Penalties.

- 8.1.1. Any person who is found guilty by a court of violating any of the provisions of this Regulation, either by failing to do the acts required herein or by doing a prohibited act, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor, pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 26A-1-123.
- 8.1.2. Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate violation.
- 8.1.3. Each similar subsequent violation occurring within two years of the initial violation may constitute a class A misdemeanor.

8.2. Civil & Administrative Penalties.

- 8.2.1. Penalties may be included in a Settlement Agreement or Stipulation & Consent Order. Penalties may be assessed according to the following factors:
 - (i) The violator's history of compliance or non-compliance;
 - (ii) The violator's economic benefit of non-compliance;
 - (iii) The documented costs associated with environmental or health damage;
 - (iv) The violator's degree of willfulness or negligence; and
 - (v) The violator's good faith efforts to comply and cooperate.
- 8.2.2. The Director may multiply the penalty by the number of days the violation occurred.

8.3. Recovery of Investigation & Abatement Costs


- 8.3.1. The Department may recover its inspection, investigative and abatement expenses and costs from owners or other responsible person.
- 8.3.2. The Department may record a judgment lien on a violator's property to recover its expenses and costs.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE

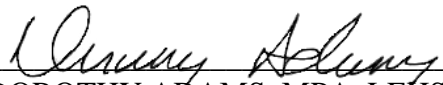
- 9.1. This Regulation shall be effective upon its enactment by the Salt Lake County Board of Health.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of November, 2024.

SALT LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

By: 
Dan Eckersley, Chair

ATTEST:


DOROTHY ADAMS, MPA, LEHS
Executive Director
Salt Lake County Health Department