

Title 15 - Mississippi Department of Health

Part III – Office of Health Protection

Subpart 77 – Onsite Wastewater

CHAPTER 12 REGULATION GOVERNING INDIVIDUAL ONSITE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL: DESIGN STANDARD X (OVERLAND DISCHARGE)

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101 Introduction

Overland discharge is essentially a method to dispose of treated effluent. Overland discharge may be spray irrigation, point discharge or discharge via a manifold. Careful evaluation of the site, soils and geographical conditions are necessary to prevent runoff, erosion, groundwater pollution and nuisance conditions.

102 Treatment

Wastewater disposed of by overland discharge must be treated to EPA secondary treatment standards. Untreated or primary (partially) treated wastewater shall not be disposed of by overland discharge.

103 General

103.01 Overland discharge of treated wastewater may be used when suitable soil is not present for underground absorption. However, on property adjacent to sensitive waters, overland discharges cannot be used on soils of gravel and coarse sands texture as these soils may not provide the necessary treatment to protect water quality.

- 103.02 The discharge must be distributed from an outlet pipe equipped with a manifold/ header or flow dividing device (See FIGURE 1) in such a manner as to maintain the effluent on the property owned or controlled by the generator through a recorded easement. The manifold/header or flow dividing device must be constructed to be self draining.
- 103.03 The land area receiving the discharge shall have a minimum six inches of naturally occurring soil free of a restrictive horizon or predominately gray color. The land area receiving the discharge shall be maintained to prevent surface accumulation or ponding of effluent. The location for overland discharge must be maintained with sod, permanent vegetative cover or a wooded area.
- 103.04 Treated effluent that is to be disposed of by overland discharge must be adequately disinfected See [Design Standard XI, Disinfection].
- 103.05 The land area receiving the discharge must be of sufficient size to maintain the outermost edge of the effluent the following prescribed distances:
1. 50 feet from property lines, down slope or same grade, and dwellings; 10 feet from property lines up slope.
 2. 100 feet from any well or source of potable water and any sensitive waters, or other sensitive areas.
- 103.06 If effluent is to be delivered to the manifold or flow diverting device under pressure, the distribution system shall be designed to provide a pressure at the point of discharge not to exceed five (5) pounds per square inch.
- 104 Location of Overland Discharge Systems
- 104.01 Any vessel holding wastewater shall be located a minimum of 50 feet from any public, private or individual potable water source.
- 104.02 The effluent disposal field shall be located at a lower elevation and a minimum of 100 feet from any public, private or individual potable water source.
- 104.03 Potable water lines shall not pass under or through any part of the sewage disposal system. Where a water supply line must cross a sewer line, the bottom of the water service within ten feet of the point of crossing, shall be at least 12 inches above the top of the sewer line. The sewer line shall be of Schedule 40 pipe with cemented joints at least ten feet on either side of the crossing. Water and sewer lines shall not be laid in the same trench. The water and sewer lines shall maintain a minimum horizontal separation distance of 10 feet.
- 104.04 The area of the effluent disposal field shall not be used for vehicular traffic or vehicular parking.

- 104.05 Septic tanks, treatment plants, disinfection units and/or pump chambers shall not be located under dwellings or other permanent structures.
- 104.06 Effluent disposal systems shall not be located in depressed areas where surface water will accumulate. Provision shall be made to minimize the flow of surface water over the effluent disposal field.
- 104.07 Surface wastewater disposal fields located on slopes of less than eight percent shall have a minimum setback from the outermost edge of the effluent and recreational waters, shellfish waters or other sensitive areas as prescribed in TABLE I.
- 104.08 Surface wastewater disposal fields located on slopes of greater than eight percent shall be located a minimum of 100 feet from recreational waters, shellfish waters and other sensitive areas.
- 104.09 Slopes of greater than 30% shall not be considered for surface disposal field installation.
- 104.10 Where all or part of the onsite wastewater disposal system is proposed to be installed on property other than the owner's, an easement in perpetuity shall be legally recorded in the proper county. The easement shall be of sufficient size to permit access, construction and maintenance of the onsite sewage disposal system.
- 104.11 No site for a surface disposal field shall be approved which is located wholly within an area which is frequently flooded, swamp, marsh, or wetland.
- 104.12 When a proposed lot is located partially within a frequently flooded area, that portion of said lot not within the flood prone area may be considered for approval for the effluent disposal field.
- 104.13 Easements or right-of-way areas for utilities, surface or subsurface drainage, roads, streets, ponds or lakes shall not be used as available space for location of individual surface disposal fields.

CERTIFICATION OF REGULATION

This is to certify that the above **PUT REGULATION NAME HERE** was adopted by the Mississippi State Board of Health on Put Date Here to become effective Put Date Here.

Brian W. Amy, MD, MHA, MPH
Secretary and Executive Officer