

## **Sewage System Requirements Summary – Atlantic Canada**

### **New Brunswick**

When applying for on-site sewage disposal system installation, certain information must be provided and requirements are to be met. The information needed includes a licensed installer information (licensee name, number, mailing address, and phone number), property information (lot number, property owner and number, property mailing address, and property location), lot dimensions (total area and dimensions), building and sewage flow information (building type, number of flows and any additional fixtures), water supply information, disposal system type (conventional or non-conventional, and distribution), septic tank type, and original soil description.

Septic tank clearance distances:

- 1.5 meters (5 ft) from any building
- 15 meters (50 ft) from any drilled well
- 30 meters (100 ft) from any dug well used for portable water
- 15 meters (50 ft) from any recreational lakes or streams
- 90 meters (300 ft) from lakes or streams used for portable water

Disposal field clearance distances:

- 1.2 meters (4 ft) above bedrock/groundwater/impervious layer
- 3 meters (10 ft) from any building or property line
- 15 meters (50 ft) from the high-water level of any body of water
- 23 meters (75 ft) from any drilled well
- 30 meters (100 ft) from any dug well used for portable water
- 75 meters (250 ft) from lakes/streams used for portable water
- 3 meters (10 ft) from any foundation drains or any part thereof

Licensed installer must provide the owner with a completed certificate of compliance, a copy of the installation plan, and operating instructions for the system within 10 days after the system is covered.

System drawings to include:

- All clearance distances
- Property dimensions (including easements/right of ways)
- Percentage and direction of the slope of the property
- Dimensions and layout of the on-site sewage disposal system
- Separation distances between the septic tank, disposal field, building locations, property lines, property well(S), adjacent well(s), building foundation drainage system, and bodies of water within 100 meters of any part of the proposed system
- Finished ground elevation of the area where the system is or is to be located, in reference to the original ground elevation, including apron and taper where applicable

- Amount of clean crushed rock or shifted gravel around distribution pipe/concrete leaching alleys
- System specifications and any other information as requested by the Minister or delegate that relates to the work to be done under the approval

An overhead view of the system on the property must also be drawn to scale on the application if the property is 2000 m<sup>2</sup> or less.

## **Nova Scotia**

When applying for installation of an on-site sewage disposal system within Nova Scotia, one must provide in the application the name of the notifier, primary phone number, professional designation (and its number), and mailing address. The application must also include the civic address of the property where the system will be installed. Other property details that are needed will be listed below.

### **Property details:**

- State the water supply; whether it is existing, proposed or specify another type.
- Water supply type; whether it is a drilled well, dug well, or any other type.
- Development type; a multiple dwelling, residential single family, or any other type.
- The number of bedrooms within the dwelling.

### **System details:**

- Length of the disposal field in meters.
- Whether the system is selected or designed.
- The design capacity of the system in L/day.
- Depth of the soil.
- Specify the type of permeable soil.
- Depth to bedrock, water table, or to the permeable soil
- Specify the disposal field layout (for NORWECO it would be “Advanced Treatment Unit”)
- The malfunction replacement.

### **Clearance Distances:**

- 3 meters from all lot boundaries
- 9 meters of downslope lot boundaries
- 15 meters from drilled wells
- 30 meters from dug wells and other drinking water supply
- Non-water-tight portion:
  - 8 meters from underground cistern or contained water supply
  - 30 meters from any surface watercourse, wetland or marine water body
  - 15 meters of downslope ditch or drain that flows intermittently
  - 6 meters from any water distribution system
  - 6 meters from any foundation drainage system

- Water-tight portion:
  - 5 meters from underground cistern or contained water supply
  - 15 meters from any surface watercourse, wetland, or marine water body
  - 1.5 meters from any foundation drainage system
  - 3 meters from private water distribution system
  - 3 meters from water latterly connected to a distribution system if a pressure-fed effluent pipe
  - 0.30 meters from water laterally connected to a central distribution system if a gravity fed effluent pipe

Vertical clearance distances:

- 1 meter from the maximum groundwater level, bedrock, or soil with permeability greater than  $500 \times 10^{-6}$  m/s
- 0.6 meters from the maximum groundwater level, bedrock, or soil with permeability greater than  $500 \times 10^{-6}$  m/s
- 0.3 meters from water lateral connected to a central distribution system (waterline above the effluent pipe)

System drawings which include the clearance distances and the design specifications of the on-site sewage disposal systems must be submitted along with the application form. Site plans submitted with the application must include lot layout illustrating the location of the test pit(s), direction of and percentage of the slope, location of the structures (proposed and existing), watercourse(s), well(s) and other confining features identified in the Standard.

## **Prince Edward Island**

An application for the installation of an on-site sewage disposal system initially requires a “Site Suitability Assessment”; this will part of the application will need the assessor’s information, the property information, and the assessment information. The second part of the application is the “Sewage Disposal System Information”. This section will ask for the type of activity (whether it’s a new system or a replacement), the type of dwelling, septic tank type and details, disposal field type, and any other additional information that may be of concern. When submitting this application, design drawings and lot plans including the location of the system and test pits are to be attached. The clearance distances of interest are listed below; the distance from “building with foundation” can be changed in the case of tight space. The beach setback may also vary depending on the date the lot is registered. Meaning, existing lots prior to 1993 require 50-foot setback from the bank or twice the erosion rate for the area – as opposed to the 75 ft.

Minimum Septic Tank Clearance Distances:

- 15.2 meters (50 ft) from a water well
- 3 meters (10 ft) from a property boundary
- 22.9 meters (75 ft) from a beach
- 4.6 meters (15 ft) from a building foundation
- 3 meters (10 ft) from a water line
- 15.2 meters (50 ft) from a natural boundary of a body of water

#### Minimum Disposal Field Clearance Distances:

- 15.2 meters (50 ft) from a water well
- 3 meters (10 ft) from a property boundary
- 22.9 meters (75 ft) from a beach
- 6.1 meters (20 ft) from a building foundation
- 4.6 meters (15 ft) from a building without a foundation
- 3 meters (10 ft) from a water line
- 15.2 meters (50 ft) from a natural boundary of a body of water

#### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

The application to install an on-site sewage disposal system in Newfoundland and Labrador will need the personal information of the applicant (full name, phone number, mailing address, business mailing address), a description of the proposed/existing development (number of bedrooms, the type of development, the existence of structures or buildings on the lot), the location of the proposed development (civic address), lot dimensions and total area, land ownership, water supply/sewage disposal proposition, vegetation, and the present use of the adjacent land (residential, commercial, or unused). A sketch of the proposed system and lot (including the location of the sewage disposal system with the accurate clearance distances) must be included in the application form.

#### Septic Tank Clearance Distances:

- 1 meter from buildings
- 3 meters from property boundaries
- 30 meters from dug wells and springs
- 16 meters from drilled wells
- 3 meters from embankments
- 4.5 meters from water service lines
- 30 meters from any water surface

#### Pit Privy Clearance Distances:

- 7.5 meters from buildings
- 4.5 meters from property boundaries
- 4.5 meters from embankments
- 16 meters from drilled wells
- 30 meters from dug wells and springs
- 30 meters from lakes, rivers, streams, etc.
- 1 meter from a water table minimum distance or Bedrock: to bottom of pit