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|  | | West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources | | | |
| | | MANUAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES | | | |
| Section | Waste Water | Date | March 28, 1989 | Procedure # | WW-4 |
| Subject | Sewage Holding Tanks | | | Page | 1 of 1 |

This office developed a policy providing guidance for the use of holding tanks in 1982. Review by the Department has indicated limited success due to the high price of pumping; the few sewage haulers that have the capability to provide long-term, uninterrupted service; and problems associated with the availability of sewage treatment plants and land disposal sites that will accept septage. These problems have caused holding tanks to be neglected resulting in overflows and public health concerns. For these reasons the Department has revised the policy as follows:

- Sewage holding tanks can only be approved for new construction after a contract for the development of a public or private sewage collection system and/or treatment facility to serve the proposed new construction has been awarded.
- County health departments may approve individual homeowner requests for a period not to exceed six months.
- Requests from commercial and industrial facilities and individual homeowners for periods in excess of six months must be approved by the Director, Office of Environmental Health Services.
- In all cases, the holding tanks shall be constructed in accordance with current regulations and design standards.
- In considering a holding tank application, the attached [Holding Tank Approval Criteria](#) should be reviewed and followed.

References

History

Replaces WW-4 dated September 2, 1982

Attachments

[Holding Tank Approval Criteria](#)