



SEPTAGE/HOLDING TANK WASTE DISCHARGE REGULATIONS

Definitions

“Authority”- Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority

“LACWA” - Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority

“Septage”- as defined by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection 06-096 Chapter 555 amended March 9, 2009, Standards for the Addition of Transported Wastes to Wastewater Treatment Facilities shall mean “any waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or other material from septic tanks, cesspools, vault privies or similar sources that concentrate wastes.” Thus, wastes from portable or chemical toilets, septic tanks and multiple user systems having sand filters or other treatment units shall be Septage, not holding tank wastes. For the purpose of these regulations, the term “septic wastes” or septic tank “wastes” may be used in place of “septage”.

“Hauler”- Authority-permitted septage and/or holding tank waste hauler.

“Holding” wastes shall be defined as wastes from solely domestic sources which have not been concentrated or had chemicals added to them.

Permits

Each truck used by a septage/holding waste hauler to transport wastes to the Authority’s wastewater treatment facility is required to have a permit issued by the Authority. Each permit will include the hauler’s Authority-generated permit number which cannot be transferred to another hauler. Septage/holding waste hauler permit application forms may be obtained by writing, emailing, or calling the Authority. Permits will expire July 31st of each year.

Permit Renewal

Permit renewal applications will be issued to haulers on an annual basis. Applications for permit renewals shall be submitted to the Authority no sooner than 60 days prior to the expiration date and no later than 7 days before the permit expiration date. Failure to submit a permit application for renewal is cause for revocation of the hauler's permission to use the Authority for discharge of septage/holding wastes. Permit lengths may be extended or shortened to accommodate a new hauler's application that is received other than the normal renewal time, but in no case will permits be more than 2 years in length.

Damages

Haulers shall be liable for any damage or injury caused to Authority infrastructure and/or people on Authority property. Haulers are liable for all costs to repair damages to Authority infrastructure to Authority satisfaction.

Disputes

Haulers are prohibited from altercations, arguments, abusive language, aggressive behavior, threats or acts of violence. Any of these above actions may be grounds for immediate revocation of discharge privileges for that hauler company or that specific person. If any disputes occur, haulers must bring them up with Authority management for the issue to be settled.

Permit Revocation

Any Authority issued permit granted in accordance with these regulations may be subject to revocation by the Authority on the basis of failure to pay proper charges, use of unauthorized disposal sites, failure to meet sanitation standards, damage to property, injury to anyone, pollution, non-renewal of the hauler's permit, discharging industrial wastewater, failure to comply with any part or requirement of this permit, or the discharging of any wastes that damage or interfere with the Authority's wastewater treatment facility or sludge management program. The Authority reserves the right to pursue further just remedies as permitted by law, including, but not limited to, referral of the matter to law enforcement and/or a regulatory agency or agencies

Discharge Fees

The fee for discharging septage and /holding tank wastes into the Authority's wastewater treatment facility will be established yearly as part of the budget process by the Authority's Board of Directors. The septage/holding waste hauler will be billed monthly based upon the volume of wastes discharged to the Authority within that time frame.

Discharge Requirements

All trucks must be equipped with a suitable discharge hose. The Authority will consider failure by the hauler to use a suitable discharge hose as grounds for refusing a hauler's load.

Haulers will discharge septage/holding tank waste into a designated location and the Authority reserves the right to require haulers to rake the screenings and place them in a designated location or container.

The Authority will consider failure to clean and rake the bar rack and trough after use as grounds for the issuance of a \$10 fee per occurrence.

Any spillage of truck contents on the Authority grounds may constitute a health hazard as well as a nuisance. Clean-up of such spillage is the responsibility of the hauler. Haulers may only discharge septage/holding tank wastes into the designated location, any other discharges, including but not limited to draining pump traps, solid traps etc. on the ground or into the station, are prohibited. Any LACWA supplied discharge hose must be drained completely.

Due to safety and health reasons, haulers are prohibited from pressure-discharging into the receiving station. All haulers must have an operational sight gauge with marks indicating the volume in gallons of liquid carried in the truck tank.

All haulers must have a valid Maine Department of Environmental Protection Non-Hazardous Waste Transporter's License and applicable sticker for each truck used to transport septage/holding wastes to the Authority.

All haulers must have liability insurance coverage for each vehicle used to haul septic/holding tank wastes to the Authority. Insurance coverage shall be a minimum of \$500,000 liability coverage. Proof of insurance must be submitted with the application, and throughout the year if insurance coverage times are different than the length of the permit in order to demonstrate compliance with this requirement. The Authority must be listed as a certificate holder so that if at any time the insurance has lapsed the Authority will be notified.

Septic and holding tank wastes are accepted between the hours as listed on the hauler's permit. The Authority reserves the right to amend any permit including but not limited to the dates and times of discharge at any time. Any hauler wishing to discharge over 7,500 gallons of septic or holding tank waste in one day must submit a verbal or written request to the Authority. This gives Authority personnel time to make sure that the Authority's wastewater treatment processes can handle the load(s) and that there will be no violation of the Authority's MEPDES permit daily volume limit for septic waste.

Harmful Septic or Holding Tank Wastes Shall Be Refused

Septic or holding tank wastes which are harmful to the Authority's treatment processes or sludge disposal practices are prohibited including but not limited to: industrial wastes, septage or holding tank wastes containing toxic chemicals, extreme pH (such as acids), grease trap wastes, flammable substances (such as but not limited to gasoline), or corrosive materials in concentrations deemed harmful to the wastewater treatment operation. Grease trap wastes may be allowed at the Authority's discretion with a separate feedstock permit. Non-harmful Non-Categorical Industrial Wastes may only be accepted if the Authority issues a Hauled Waste Permit.

Emergency Situations

In the event of an emergency where septic or holding tank waste from a resident in a Town or City must be discharged at the Authority during non-business hours, or during a period when the Authority has stopped receiving septic and holding tank wastes, the Code Enforcement Officer or other responsible public safety official must contact the Authority's General Manager at (207) 450-3824 to verify the emergency.

Discharge Slips

Official Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority Septic and Holding Tank Discharge Record slips must accompany every load. Each slip must have the following information filled out: Hauler Company, Driver Name, Date and Time of Discharge, Volume of Discharge in Gallons (accurate to within 100 gallons), Notation of whether the load is septic or holding, Name and full address of the source, and should have a signature of the source. Repeated failure (defined as more than three incomplete slips per month) to provide the required slip information required may result in suspension of discharge privileges for 1 week for that hauler company. Discharging of materials other than what was on the slip may result revocation of the septage/holding tank waste hauler permit and any other permit(s) with the Authority, as well as possible referral to law enforcement and/or a regulatory agency or agencies.

Septic and Holding Tank Discharge Record slips shall be deposited into the slip box or receptacle designated in the hauler permit.

Sampling of Trucked Wastes

The Authority may randomly check levels (volumes) of discharge, and/or collect and analyze samples of any wastes brought in by any hauler(s).

Any random hauler sampling will be scheduled in advance in December of the previous year. Nothing in this pre-determined schedule shall limit the ability of the Authority to check any volume or collect any sample at any time to verify compliance and/or accurate reporting by any hauler.

Notification of Temporary Stoppage

The Authority reserves the right to temporarily shut off all septic and holding tank waste receiving. An authorized Authority employee shall inform all haulers within a reasonable amount of time. In addition, all haulers shall be notified concerning the first day they will be able to resume discharges to the Authority.

Basis Statement

These regulations are to assure that the disposal of septic and holding tank wastes at the Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority's Wastewater Treatment Plant is conducted in a safe, efficient manner which protects the physical facilities, does not interfere with the proper operation of the facility, and does not interfere with sludge or effluent quality.

Severability

If any provisions of these regulations shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of these regulations which shall be hereby declared severable.

Effective Date: January 1, 2022
Date of Origin: February 1, 1990

Amended: October 8, 2021
September 13, 1996
July 10, 1992
July 18, 1997
September 14, 2007
September 23, 2008
September 8, 2010
December 3, 2024

To All Septage/Holding Tank Waste Haulers:

Transmitted herewith are the “Septage and Holding Tank Waste Discharge Regulations” for the Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority. These Regulations supersede any previous LACWA regulations for this purpose. It provides a framework for the Authority and the septage/holding tank waste haulers discharging into the Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority’s wastewater treatment facility.

This policy will be revised and updated as requirements by Federal, State and local statutes affecting the Lewiston-Auburn Clean Water Authority are revised, or as determined by the LACWA Board of Directors in accordance with applicable public notice requirements.

This revision was accepted by the LACWA Board of Directors on December 13, 2024.