

Information Bulletin:

Approvals required for a camp or lodge sewage disposal system

Reviewed and Approved by the Directors' Committee established under the Inter-departmental Waters Agreement for the administration of the Waters Act

January 2016

Original: March 2012

Purpose

The *Waters Regulation (Waters Act)*, and the *Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation (Public Health and Safety Act)* set out how camp and lodge operators must handle waste, including sewage disposal systems. A sewage disposal system is defined as a system consisting of one or more septic tanks and a soil absorption system, or other system of sewage treatment, disposal or storage

This information bulletin is intended to clarify when a facility will require either a water licence or a sewage disposal permit(s). It does not deal with other aspects of your facility's direct and indirect water use, which might also require a water licence.

Summary

	Camp or lodge serving 50 or fewer people	Camp or lodge with a capacity of more than 50 occupants per day
Fully contained system which does not deposit waste (e.g. approved sewage holding tank)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Licence not required Permit required under the <i>Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Licence not required Permit required under the <i>Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation</i>
System which deposits waste with no direct or indirect discharge to surface waters (e.g. soil absorption system)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Licence not required Permit required under the <i>Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A type "B" Water Licence is required No permit required under the <i>Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation</i>
System which deposits waste with direct or indirect discharge to surface waters (e.g. certain package treatment plants)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A type "B" Water Licence is required No permit required under the <i>Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A type "B" Water Licence is required No permit required under the <i>Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation</i>

Relevant Legislation

Public Health and Safety Act

The [Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation](#) applies to “the disposal of sewage from all buildings and like structures, temporary or permanent, vehicles which have toilet facilities, and sewage produced from public gatherings and campgrounds, except where disposed of by way of a municipal sewer system or as authorized under the *Waters Act*” (section 3). It defines sewage as “waste water, human sullage or waste of a like nature contained in or discharging from kitchen, bathing, toilet, laundry facilities or other similar facilities, or a privy.”

Waters Act

The [Waters Act](#) prohibits persons from depositing a waste except in accordance with the conditions of a licence or as authorized by regulation (section 7). Schedule 8 of the [Waters Regulation](#) outlines the criteria for a deposit of waste by a camp or lodge which are permitted without a licence (Column 2) or require a type “B” water licence (Column 3).

Resources

The *Waters Act*, *Waters Regulation*, *Public Health and Safety Act* and *Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation* are available online from the Government of Yukon website (www.gov.yk.ca) in the legislation section.

Paper versions of Acts and Regulations are published by and available from the Queen’s Printer.

For more information on the application of the *Waters Act* and *Regulation*, please contact the Environmental Programs Branch at (867) 667-5683.

For more information on the application of the *Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation* please contact Environmental Health Services at (867) 667-8391.