

RULES OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
PUBLIC HEALTH
CHAPTER 290-5-59
SPECIAL ONSITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

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290-5-59-.01 APPLICABILITY. These Rules shall be in force from August 1, 1995 and shall have application except in the following cases:

- a) In any county or municipality which has a local health code in effect;
- b) To any facility or system under the jurisdiction of and regulated by the Department of Natural Resources or its successor, under the Georgia Water Quality Control Act or the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act or their successors;
- c) To any public or community sewage treatment system.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-12-8. History. Original Rule entitled "Applicability" adopted F. June 22, 1995; eff. Aug. 1, 1995, as specified by the Agency. Amended f. Dec. 12, 1996; eff. Jan 1, 1997

290-5-59-.02 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings as indicated:

- a) APPROVAL or APPROVED means acceptable or accepted by the Health Authority in accordance with applicable specifications stated herein or with additional criteria accepted by the Authority.
- b) CONTRACTOR means any person who shall contract for the installation, construction, repair, alteration, enlargement, emptying or pumping out of any onsite sewage management system.
- c) DHR means the Georgia Department of Human Resources or its successor agency.
- d) DNR means the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.
- e) HEALTH AUTHORITY means the local county or consolidated health board.
- f) HOLDING TANK means a water tight container utilized temporarily to hold sewage from a flush toilet.

- g) **MANUAL FOR ONSITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS** means the DHR technical handbook currently adopted and periodically updated, used by the Health Authority in the implementation of the Chapter and available for inspection at the appropriate DHR State Office in Atlanta or the local Health Authority. The Manual for Onsite Sewage Management Systems is intended as a guide and its provisions are herein adopted unless inconsistent with other provisions of law or regulation.
- h) **ONSEWERED TOILET SYSTEM** means any portable structure used for the collection, temporary storage and chemical treatment of human body wastes that is not connected to an onsite sewage management system or public or community sewerage system.
- i) **ONSITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM** means a sewage management system other than a public or community sewage treatment system, whether serving single or multiple buildings, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, residences or other facilities designed or used for human occupancy or congregation. Included are conventional septic tank systems, privies, and alternative onsite sewage management systems that may be approved by the local Health Authority.
- j) **PERSON** means any individual, partnership, corporation or association including bodies political and corporate.
- k) **PUBLIC OR COMMUNITY SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM** means any sewage treatment system, including pipe lines or conduits, pumping stations, force mains and all other construction devices and appliances appurtenant thereto, designed for treating or conduction sewage for treatment and disposal into lakes, streams and other bodies of surface water.
- l) **PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS** means a system for the provision to the public of piped water for human consumptions, if such system has at least fifteen service connections, or regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals, at least sixty (60) days out of the year.
- m) **SEPTAGE** means a waste that is a fluid mixture of partially treated or untreated sewage solids, liquids and sludge of human or domestic waste, present in or pumped from septic tanks, malfunctioning onsite sewage treatment systems, grease traps or privies.
- n) **SEWAGE** means human excreta, all water-carried wastes, and/or liquid household waste including grey water from residences or similar wastes or by-products from commercial and industrial establishments.
- o) **SPECIAL EVENT** means any activity attracting more than fifty (50) persons that is sponsored, organized, promoted, managed or financed by any person, group, partnership, organization, corporation, business or governmental entity where

individuals congregate to participate in or observe an activity in outdoor or portable enclosed or semi-enclosed structures for more than two (2) consecutive hours.

- p) TOILET means a sanitary fixture meeting Health Authority and plumbing code requirements for receipt and conveyance of human body wastes to a public or community sewerage system or an onsite sewage management system.
- q) WELL means an excavation or opening into the ground by which groundwater is sought or obtained.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-12-8. History, Original Rule entitles "Definitions" adopted Jun. 22, 1995; eff. Aug. 1, 1995, as specified by the Agency.

290-5-59-.03 GENERAL PROVISIONS.

- 1) It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain and operate the onsite sewage management system in a safe and sanitary manner so as not to constitute a public health hazard or nuisance.
- 2) No person shall allow the unapproved discharge or spillage of sewage, nor shall an onsite sewage management system be used or maintained in such a manner that will allow the seepage or discharge of effluent from such system to the ground surface, to a water course, drainage ditch, open trench, canal, storm drain or storm sewer, water well, abandoned well, lake, stream, river, estuary, groundwater or other body of water.
- 3) Campgrounds, RV Parks and Tourist Accommodations shall not provide more accommodations such as parking spaces and /or hook-ups than the sewage system is designed to serve.
- 4) Every premise shall be provided with at least one toilet, privy, or nonsewered toilet system in accordance with the following requirements:
 - a) Except as allowed in subparagraph (c) of the paragraph, every toilet shall be connected to a public or community sewerage system or to an approved onsite sewage management system.
 - b) Each venue and/or special event sponsor utilizing a holding tank system must have proof of a service contract.
 - c) Nonsewered toilet system(s) may be considered for approval by the Health Authority where sanitary facilities are needed on a temporary basis for the general public at a mass gathering or event and on an interim basis (one year maximum) for a limited defined group of people (i.e. employees and security personnel at a work site). A nonsewered toilet system shall be maintained in a sanitary manner.

- 5) Employees at all work sites and the general public attending and participating in special events that are inadequately served by sewerer toilet facilities should have easy access to nonsewered toilet systems that are maintained in a clean, sanitary, and functional condition for the protection of human health, safety and welfare. Where nonsewered toilet systems supplement or serve in lieu of sewerer toilet facilities, the construction and maintenance of the sewerer facilities shall meet the following standards:
 - a) All employers and sponsors of special events shall provide for acceptable nonsewered toilet systems when sewerer toilets are not available or are insufficient in number at the worksite or location of the special event. Such systems shall be furnished by an individual or company licensed by the Health Authority in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph. Systems shall be maintained in a clean, sanitary and functional condition.
 - b) Special event sponsors shall obtain a permit for needed nonsewered toilets as a requirement for authorization to hold the event.
 - c) Determination of the number of toilets required during anticipated peak attendance at a special event shall be based on previously established calculations provided the environmental specialist and specific tables contained in the Sanitarian and Health Official Guide entitled "Portable Restroom Requirements at Special Events and Crowd Gatherings" as developed by the Center for Business and Industrial Studies, University of Missouri, St. Louis, and shall take into consideration any sewerer seated or urinal toilets that may be present at the site of the special event.
- 6) Nonsewered toilets shall be constructed in the following prescribed manner and maintained in a clean, sanitary and functional condition:
 - a) A nonsewered toilet is a portable self-contained unit equipped with a waste-receiving holding container.
 - b) Rooms, buildings or shelters housing toilets shall be of solid construction, easy to clean, and provide shelter and privacy. The toilet room shall be ventilated to the outside and adequately lighted. All ventilation openings to the toilet room shall be covered with 16 mesh screen. Internal latches shall be provided to assure units from inadvertent entry.
 - c) Waste containers shall be fabricated from impervious materials. Containers shall be watertight and capable of containing the waste in a sanitary manner. Containers shall be adequate in size to be used by the number of persons, according to the schedule for minimum requirements under this Rule, without filling the container to more than half of its volume before regularly schedule service.

- d) Service shall be performed at least once per week by a licensed nonsewered toilet service in accordance with this paragraph and as often as deemed necessary by the Health Authority.
 - e) Servicing shall include the use of a sanitizing solution for cleaning urinals and toilet seats, removing waste from containers, recharging containers with an odor-controlling solution and installing an adequate supply of toilet tissue. Employers and event sponsors shall be responsible for contracting servicing intervals frequent enough to ensure clean, sanitary facilities.
 - f) Any defective or inadequate toilet unit shall be repaired or withdrawn from service by locking or removal.
 - g) Removal of waste shall be conducted in a clean and sanitary manner by means of a vacuum hose to a leak proof tank truck on which all ports are properly valved and capped. Contractor is responsible for clean up of all spillage during unit servicing.
 - h) Provisions shall be made so service trucks have safe and convenience access at all times to the toilets to be serviced.
 - i) Disposal of waste from tank trucks shall be in accordance with the Health authority requirements.
- 7) The location of nonsewered toilets shall be as close as practical to the highest concentration of employees or to the participants, observers and employees of special events. However, the units should be placed as far from the food service area as possible. The safety of users shall be a consideration in the placement of units. At special events, toilet facilities shall be located convenient to participants and accessible at all times for maintenance by truck.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sections 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-12-8, 31-27-9. History. Original Rule entitled "General Provisions" adopted F. Jun 22, 1995; eff. Aug. 1, 1995, as specified by the Agency.

290-5-59.04 ENFORCEMENT the administration and enforcement of this Chapter shall be in accordance with O.C.G.A. Chapter 31-5 or its successor.

Authority O.C.G.A. Section 12-8-1, 31-2-1, 31-2-2, 31-2-4, 31-12-8. History. Original Rule entitled "Enforcement" adopted F. June. 22, 1995; eff. Aug 1, 1995, as specified by the Agency.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL
QUICK REFERENCE LIST

APPLICATION AND PLANS

- Review/approval process
 - Must be submitted within 30 days prior to the actual event
 - Site evaluation
 - Secure permit and appropriate fees
 - Site inspection (prior to and during event)
- Site assessment following the venue

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ENFORCEMENT

- 1st violation of regulation – notice to comply
- 2nd violation of regulation – (same offense) – citation issues for court

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Plan submittal/review – all responsibilities for plan submittal and review, including application and/or checklists, permitting and collection of fees shall be with the local county health authority.
- Each venue and related sites pertaining to the venue must be provided with adequate sewage disposal facilities (either sewerred or nonsewerred toilets)

SEWAGE DISPOSAL
PROCEDURES – ORGANIZER OF EVENT

1. Report planned event to the Health Authority 30 days prior to the event.
2. Complete and file the application.
3. Organizer is responsible for providing any vendors with a copy of the sewage disposal regulation.
4. Organizer must submit fees in conjunction with completed application to the Health Authority. A fee is required for organizer participating in the special event for sewage handling and disposal.
5. A late fee will be charged for all applications not submitted 30 days prior to the event.
6. Organizers must comply with the special event sewage disposal regulation.
7. Organizer must submit a diagram of the site showing the location of nonsewered toilets to facilitate issuance of permits.
8. the organizer agrees to remove and replace any damaged or vandalized units and provide additional units if deemed necessary by the local health authority.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

PERMIT APPLICATION – NONSEWERED TOILETS

SPECIAL EVENT/FESTIVAL INFORMATION – Please fill out each blank completely. Type or print clearly in ink.

SPECIAL EVENT/FESTIVAL NAME

LOCATION (INCLUDE NAME OF PARK, ETC. AND FULL ADDRESS)

SPONSOR’S NAME

SPONSOR’S MAILING ADDRESS

CONTACT PERSON

CONTACT’S TELEPHONE NUMBER

SITE TELEPHONE NUMBER

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER

DATES OF EVENT/FESTIVAL

TIMES OF EVENT/FESTIVAL

SIZING CRITERIA – Please fill out each blank completely. Put “n/a” in any blank that does not apply to your event.

1. Estimated peak attendance/crowd _____

2. Hours per day the event/festival will be in progress _____

3. How frequently will you contract to have the nonsewered toilets serviced by the licensed provider? _____

Time(s)/day _____

Time(s)/week _____

4. Will alcoholic beverages be available at the event, either provided by the sponsor or the participants/visitors? _____

5. How many existing toilets are available for participants or visitors to use:

None _____
Men's toilets/urinals _____
Women's toilets _____
Handicapped toilets _____

6. Will food be served or be available at the event, either provided by the sponsor or brought in by participants/visitors? _____

7. How many people do you anticipate daily? _____

8. When do you anticipate peak crowd? Date _____

From _____ to _____ time

Please return this application at least thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the event/festival to the address below.

The undersigned hereby applied for a permit to utilizes nonsewered toilets pursuant to the Georgia Health Code, chapter 290-5-59 and hereby certifies that he has received a copy of the Special Onsite sewage Management systems Rules and Regulation.

I have read and understand all nonsewered toilet information.

Signature of Person in Charge

PERMIT DATA – To be completed by the Health Authority representative only.

_____ Permit number	_____ Minimum no. of units	_____ Health Authority representative	_____ Date permit issued
_____ Fee amount received	_____ Check or Money order #	_____ Date fee paid	_____ Receipt number

PERMIT FOR NONSEWERED TOILET SYSTEM

Date Issued

Permit Number

A PERMIT IS HEREBY GRANTED TO

(Sponsors Name) TO UTILIZE _____
(# Fixtures) NONSEWERED TOILETS AT THE

(Special Event/Festival Name)

LOCATED AT _____ GEORGIA
(Street, Highway or RFD) (City or Town)

SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 290-5-59, THE REGULATION ENTITLED, "SPECIAL ONSITE SEWAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS", AND IS VALID UNTIL SUSPENDED, REVOKED OR EXPIRES.

EFFECTIVE _____, 20____.

EXPIRES _____, 20____.

By: _____
District Health Officer

Issuing Official

DHR / Environmental Health

Nonsewered Toilet System Inspection Report

Event/Venue: _____ Inspector: _____

Date: _____ Shift: _____ Inspector Signature: _____

Contractor/Phone: _____ / _____ No. of Units Permitted: _____

Location: _____ No. of Units Actual: _____

Inspection Time:

Condition:

_____ No. Of Units Inspected _____ No. Of Units Posted

_____ am pm

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Corrective Action: _____

Inspection Time:

Condition:

_____ No. Of Units Inspected _____ No. Of Units Posted

_____ am pm

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Corrective Action: _____

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONNAIRE – NONSEWERED TOILET SYSTEMS

SPECIAL EVENT NAME _____

LOCATION _____ DATE(S) OF EVENT _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION – SPONSOR’S NAME _____

1. Peak Crowd Estimate _____

Time(s) _____ Day(s) _____

2. Daily Crowd Estimate _____

3. Weather Impact Good _____ Fair _____ Bad _____

Comments: _____

4. Evaluation of Nonsewered Toilet Service _____

PROVIDER INFORMATION – PROVIDER’S NAME

Person contacted _____ Date _____

1. Toilet spacing adequate Yes _____ No _____

2. Number of toilets adequate Yes _____ No _____

3. Servicing Schedule adequate Yes _____ No _____

4. Access to servicing Good _____ Bad _____

5. Evaluation of Nonsewered Toilet Service _____

Environmentalist's Comments : _____

Environmentalist's Signature _____ Date _____

December 4, 1995

**SEWAGE DISPOSAL
SUGGESTED UNIT REQUIREMENTS
NONSEWERED TOILET SYSTEMS**

PEAK CROWD # OF PEOPLE	* MINIMUM NUMBER OF NONSEWERED TOILETS NEEDED
250	2
500	2
1,000	3
2,000	5
3,000	7
4,000	10
5,000	12
6,000	14
7,000	17
8,000	20
10,000	25
12,500	28
15,000	30
17,500	35
20,000	38
25,000	42
30,000	44
40,000	48
50,000	50
75,000	75
100,000	100

- Determine the appropriate base toilet requirement from the chart above.
- For each sewerer toilet available onsite, subtract 1 from the previously calculated number.
- If alcoholic beverages are to be served, add 25% to the base number.
- If toilets are to be serviced more than once per day, subtract 25% from the base number.
- For peak crowd numbers that fall between chart number, extrapolate the required number of toilets needed

Examples:	people	units	people	units
	5,000	12	40,000	48
	5,500	13	45,000	49
	6,000	14	50,000	50

* Additional units may be required as deemed necessary by the Health Authority.