

CESSPOOL REGULATIONS
EAST BRIDGEWATER BOARD OF HEALTH
SUPPLEMENTARY RULES AND REGULATIONS

TITLE V, 310 CMR 15.000

1.01 Purpose – In order to protect the public health and environment these regulations are established to further protect the groundwater, surface waters, drinking water and wetlands.

1.02 (1) In accordance with the provisions of 310 CMR 11.02 of the State Environmental Code and under the authority of M.G.L. Chapter 111 Section 31, the Board of Health of East Bridgewater hereby adopts these Supplementary Rules and Regulations to the State Environmental Code: Title V, 310 CMR 15.000, Standard Regulations of the siting, construction, inspection, upgrade and expansion of on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems.

(2) The provisions of these Supplementary Rules and Regulations shall be read together with the provisions of 310 CMR 15.000.

(3) The purpose is to require precautions to avoid potential danger and to restrict conditions proven to be harmful. The precautionary principle is to protect even the threat of harm to the environment. The precautionary action is to avoid harm before scientific certainty has been established.

(4) The effective date will be 1 January 2005.

1.03 System Failure Criteria

(1) Purpose: To avoid contamination of ground water and surface water by substandard on-site sewage disposal systems. Substandard systems present a serious threat to drinking water thus negatively affecting the public health. This contamination also poses a threat to designated wetlands affecting the environment and public health.

(2) Cesspools

(a) Septic systems of one cesspool shall be upgraded to conform to 310 CMR 15.00, the State Environment Code, Title 5, Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary sewage and the Town of East Bridgewater requirements.

(b) When the bottom of a cesspool with an overflow system is within 2 feet of seasonal high ground water level as determined by a licensed soil evaluator, it shall be upgraded to conform to 310 CMR 15.00, State Environmental Code, Title 5, Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage and the Town of East Bridgewater requirements.

(c) All other cesspools with overflows or leaching pits require further evaluation by the Board of Health.

(d) This section shall apply to any septic system inspection conducted in accordance with 310 CMR, 15.301 of the State Environmental Code, Title 5. This regulation shall also be strictly enforced during the building permit application process.

Adopted by unanimous vote on February 22, 2005.