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Chapter RD 13

**SERVICING SEPTIC TANKS, SEEPAGE PITS,
GREASE TRAPS OR PRIVIES**

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RD 13.01 Applicability. These rules relating to the servicing of septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps or privies shall be applicable to any person who engages in the servicing business and to any person servicing sewage treatment and disposal units on real estate owned or leased by him in keeping with section 146.20, Wis. Stats.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1957, No. 23, eff. 12-1-57; renum. from H 66.01 to be RD 13.01, Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

RD 13.02 Definitions. For the purpose of these rules:

- (1) Department means the department of resource development.
- (2) Person means any individual, partnership, association and body politic or corporate.
- (3) Licensee means any person, including any licensed plumber, engaged in the business of servicing septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps or privies who has met the requirements of law and rules of the department.
- (4) Servicing means the cleaning, removing and disposing of scum, liquid, sludge or other wastes from a septic tank, seepage pit, grease trap or privy.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1957, No. 23, eff. 12-1-57; renum. from H 66.02 to be RD 13.02, and am., Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

RD 13.03 General requirements. (1) Hereafter any person proposing to engage in the business of servicing sewage disposal units shall have his equipment inspected by and obtain a license from the department before commencing operations. A person engaged in the business prior to July 1, 1957, shall be licensed upon application to the department without pre-inspection. Any licensee shall permit his equipment to be inspected upon request and at such time and place as may be designated by the department.

(2) Every licensee shall have sufficient knowledge of sanitation and of the principles underlying the operation of septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps and privies to safeguard public health and welfare. In the case of a new licensee or in case of doubt as to qualifications of an existing licensee the department may require applicants, initially or upon renewal, to take an oral or written examination to demonstrate that they qualify for licensure.

(3) All work shall be performed in a proper and sanitary manner to the benefit of the property owners and the public at large. The property served shall be left in a sanitary condition.

(4) Every licensee or every person servicing sewage disposal units for himself shall conform to the requirements of Wis. Adm. Code section H 62.20 (1) (f), in the disposal of wastes. Disposal sites selected by local officials for disposal of wastes removed from sewage treatment and soil absorption units shall be located and operated so as to prevent stream or lake pollution and nuisances. In spreading of wastes over lands, as permitted in section H 62.20 (1) (f), the rate of application shall not exceed 30 gallons per each 100 square feet of area.

(5) Pumping or dumping the contents of the serviced unit on the premises or on the highway when transporting the contents for dumping shall be prohibited. Any accidental spillage on the ground on the premises serviced or on highways shall be cleaned up and the area be disinfected so as to render it harmless to humans and animals.

(6) When in use, the vehicle, implements and containers shall be operated in such manner as not to become a health hazard or a nuisance. When in storage all vehicles, tanks, containers, hoses, pipes, pumps and appurtenances shall be covered, capped, sealed or so protected as not to cause an odor nuisance, permit the breeding of flies, attract rodents or become objectionable to any person.

(7) The filling of servicing tanks or containers with water derived directly from lakes or streams is not permitted whenever other sources are available. If water is taken from a stream or lake for flushing purposes, the water shall be disposed of in the same manner as the wastes. Discharge of wastes or flushing water to a stream or lake shall be cause for immediate suspension of the license.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1957, No. 23, eff. 12-1-57; renum. from H 66.03 to be RD 13.03, and am., Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

RD 13.04 Vehicles, implements and containers. (1) The vehicles and implements used in the servicing business shall be used for no other purpose except operations of a similar nature, namely, the hauling of waste materials. However, use of the vehicles for fire protection service if flushed, decontaminated and filled with clean water will be allowed.

(2) Each tank shall be strong enough for all conditions of operation, be leak proof, and designed to be kept tightly closed to prevent spillage of contents or escape of odors while in transit or storage. Tanks should be constructed of steel or other suitable metal and be mounted on a truck chassis.

(3) Licensed plumbers engaged in the business of servicing sewage disposal units shall paint their name and type and number of plumbing license on each side of each vehicle used in the business in the manner set forth in section 146.20 (3) (c) Wis. Stats. The capacity of the tank in gallons shall be painted in a contrasting color on the rear end of any vehicle used in the business by any licensee in letters and numbers at least 2 inches high. The sides and rear end of the tanks should preferably be used for the identification and capacity signs.

(4) All portable containers used in the servicing of sewage disposal units shall be constructed of metal, be water-tight, and be equipped with tight fitting lids. Transportation of wastes in portable containers shall not be allowed by a licensee without department approval of the equipment to be used, such approval to be only for one year periods.

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(5) Hoses and piping shall be mounted and stored so as to prevent leakage in transit. Ends of hoses and pipes shall be connected or be fitted with caps when not in use.

(6) Discharge valves on tanks shall be water-tight and shall be located and constructed so as to permit unobstructed discharge into the place of disposal.

(7) Pumps shall be adequate for the required service and preferably of the diaphragm type. The installation shall be designed to prevent backflow or leakage. Connections shall be provided with caps or seals.

(8) Facilities for washing the vehicles, tanks, implements, tools, etc., shall be available and of such design as to prevent an odor nuisance, breeding of flies, attraction of rodents or other objectionable conditions.

(9) All vehicles and all equipment shall be maintained in good condition at all times.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1957, No. 23, eff. 12-1-57; renum. from H 66.04 to be RD 13.04, and am., Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

RD 13.05 Inspection. (1) When a vehicle is to be inspected the licensee or prospective licensee shall have the tank one-third full of water. During the inspection, the operator shall insert the suction hose into an opening in the tank and recirculate the water through the pump and back into the tank, however, if this is impractical, a suitable alternate means of testing shall be provided. At this time, the pumping equipment, hoses, hose connections and tanks shall be checked for adequacy and for leaks. Discharge valves shall be checked for leaks and as to location.

(2) All portable receptacles shall be present at the time of inspection. The licensee shall fill several of the portable receptacles with water upon request to demonstrate that they are water-tight. The receptacles shall be clean.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1957, No. 23, eff. 12-1-57; renum. from H 66.05 to be RD 13.05, Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.

RD 13.06 License renewal denial. Equipment and operating procedures shall be inspected before the end of each license year. The renewal of license shall be denied if the equipment is found to be unsatisfactory or the operations are faulty and not in accord with the law or rules.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1957, No. 23, eff. 12-1-57; renum. from H 66.06 to be RD 13.06, Register, June, 1967, No. 138, eff. 7-1-67.