

Via USPS
April 29, 2011

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT



TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN

4540 SO. COUNTY TRAIL
CHARLESTOWN,
RHODE ISLAND

Tel (401) 364-5030
Fax (401) 364-1238

«Company_Name»
«Address_»
«Town»
ATTN: «Service_Provider»

RE: TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN OWTS ROUTINE MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS

Approved Town of Charlestown OWTS Service Provider:

The Charlestown Wastewater Management Office will be submitting 444 *Notices of Routine Maintenance Inspection Required* to owners of conventional onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) in District #2 of the Wastewater Management District. The majority of these OWTS have previously conducted the “First Maintenance Inspection” where a septic tank pumpout was required. The “Septic System Routine Maintenance Inspection Factsheet” (attached) will be provided to all homeowners as part of the *Notice* mailings. Inspections are required to be completed by June 15, 2011.

Please remember that during a “Routine Maintenance Inspection” a pumpout is **ONLY** recommended if the measured percentage of solids in the septic tank is between 35% and 50%, depending on residency and usage, or if there is some other underlying issue with the system, which may require pumping.

Additionally, please remember to obtain the previous pumpout date and calculate the accumulation rate of solids in the tank and schedule the next pumpout and inspection from three to five years based on this information.

Furthermore, any OWTS that exhibits the following will be considered a “Failed OWTS” and should be reported to the Town as such:

Any OWTS that does not adequately treat and disperse wastewater so as to create a public or private nuisance or threat to public health or environmental quality, as evidenced by, but not limited to, one or more of the following conditions:

- (1) Failure to accept wastewater into the building sewer;
- (2) Discharge of wastewater to a basement; subsurface drain; stormwater collection, conveyance, or treatment device; or watercourse unless expressly permitted by the Department;
- (3) Wastewater rising to the surface of the ground over or near any part of OWTS or seeping from the absorption area at any change in grade, bank or road cut;
- (4) The top of the inlet or the top of the outlet for a septic tank, distribution box, or pump tank is submerged;
- (5) The liquid depth in a cesspool is less than six (6) inches from the inlet pipe invert;
- (6) Pumping of the cesspool or septic tank is required more than two (2) times per year;
- (7) OWTS is shown to have contaminated a drinking water well or watercourse;
- (8) If a septic tank, pump tank, distribution box, or cesspool is pumped and groundwater seeps into it;
- (9) Any deterioration, damage, or malfunction relating to any OWTS that would preclude adequate treatment and dispersal of wastewater; or
- (10) Excessive solids are evident in the distribution box or distribution lines.

Your diligence in providing exceptional service to the Town of Charlestown property owners is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding the inspection and pumping procedure please contact the Wastewater Management office at 364-5030.

Sincerely,

Town of Charlestown, Wastewater Management Office

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew J. Dowling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'M'.

Matthew J. Dowling.
Onsite Wastewater Manager