

POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR TITLE 5 **STATE SANITARY CODE**

In accordance with Chapter 111, Section 31 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Board of Health hereby adopts the following Regulations:

1. Any building within the Town of Harwich shall not be converted, altered or repaired so as to enable its year-round use and shall not change its use unless the present existing septic system does comply with requirements of Title 5, 310 CMR 15.000, or the system be upgraded to comply with Title 5 and Harwich Board of Health Regulations.
2. A copy of the floor plan must be filed with the Board of Health.
3. In order to determine if the size of the septic system is adequate, the definition of a bedroom shall mean any portion of the dwelling which is so designed as to furnish the minimum isolation and privacy necessary for use as a sleeping area and includes but is not limited to: bedroom, den, study, sewing room, enclosed heated porch or family room; but does not include: bathroom, kitchen, dining room, halls, unfinished cellar, open deck, garage, unheated porch or living room.
4. ⁵ When determining maximum groundwater elevation, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) "Probable High Groundwater Levels on Cape Cod" calculation shall be utilized or other methods acceptable to the Board of Health. In areas subject to tidal influence – as indicated on the USGS Water-table Map October 1987 – groundwater levels shall be monitored over a full moon tidal cycle. Results shall be certified by a Massachusetts P.E./R.S. and submitted to the Board of Health.
5. Exit piping used in building sewers shall be in no case less than four (4) inches in size. Sewer piping extending through the building foundation to the septic tank and from the septic tank through the distribution box to the leaching facility shall be constructed of cast iron or a minimum of schedule forty (40) polyvinyl chloride (PVC) piping only.
6. A disposal works construction permit shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance. A permit may be renewed a maximum of two times. An expired permit will require re-application and compliance with current Board of Health Regulations.
7. A variance granted by the Board of Health from Title 5 or Harwich Board of Health Regulations shall be valid for a period of six months. If a disposal works construction permit is not applied for during that time frame, the variances shall be considered null and void.

8. ⁶ All variances granted by the Board of Health along with any Order of Conditions imposed shall be recorded at the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds by the applicant and a copy filed with the Town Clerk. This shall be completed prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

Adopted: 11/29/1989
Effective: 12/13/1989

HARWICH BOARD OF HEALTH

Shirley Gomes, Chair
Marguerite Marion
John Sauvage

Amended: 8/15/1990
Effective: 11/7/1990

HARWICH BOARD OF HEALTH

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