TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Use of Enviro-Septic® in Massachusetts Innovative/Alternative Treatment System vs. Soil Absorption System Pressure Distribution Requirements of Title V

Background: Some confusion has arisen among designers, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) personnel and local health officers regarding whether or not pressure distribution is required with Enviro-Septic® for systems from 2,000-10,000 gallons per day. Mr. David Ferris of DEP recently issued the email communication below to clarify this issue.

Email from David Ferris, Mass. DEP, dated 08/31/09 (emphasis added):

Systems over 2000 gpd in a nitrogen sensitive area require and RSF or equivalent. In addition all systems over 2000 gpd require pressure distribution as part of the design for an SAS. The EnviroSeptic System is approved as a treatment system under the I/A program to be used in certain remedial and general situations. As part of that approval pressure distribution was not a requirement when the systems where over 2000 gpd since pressure distribution would have an adverse impact on the treatment of the wastewater. In situations where the Enviro system follows another treatment unit that does require pressure distribution as part of the design one can not eliminate the requirement for pressure distribution with the use of Enviro System since at that point the Enviro System is only being used solely as an SAS not treatment since treatment was performed by another unit. In addition since the Enviro System does not have approval for nitrogen reduction it can not follow a provisional nitrogen approval over 2000 gpd for the purpose of getting out the requirement of pressure distribution for systems over In short when used by it self as a treatment unit pressure distribution is not required. It can not follow other treatment units in situation where pressure distribution is require since at that point it is no longer a treatment unit but a SAS.

Conclusion: Enviro-Septic® Treatment Systems do not require pressure distribution:

When Enviro-Septic[®] is used as an Innovative/Alternative Treatment System, pressure distribution is NOT required, even if the design flow exceeds 2,000 gallons per day. However, if Enviro-Septic[®] is utilized as a Soil Absorption System (SAS) in connection with another treatment system, it is not exempt from the pressure distribution requirements for an SAS.

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