MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WATER BUREAU

Septage Waste Program - Compliance Inspection Policy

1. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will promptly provide application materials for proposed new land disposal sites. The DEQ maintains a current list of all permitted septage waste disposal sites on its Web site for the Local Entity's use.

   - The DEQ will promptly provide copies of application materials for septage waste motor vehicle licenses.
   - The DEQ will reimburse the Local Entity in accordance with this contract for those land disposal sites, septage waste motor vehicles, and receiving facilities inspected by the Local Entity's staff or designated representative during the term of this agreement that ends **September 30, 2011**.
   - The DEQ will provide program oversight for training, technical assistance, and program oversight when requested.

2. Compliance inspections for new septage waste disposal sites shall consist of the following:

   - Detailed review of the site location maps to ensure accuracy
   - Review of the onsite soils using the USDA county soil manual
   - Review of the vector attraction reduction and pathogen reduction methods proposed by the septage firm
   - Septage firm's annual application rate (agronomic) calculations used to establish the maximum application rate are accurate
   - Review cropping plan for the coming year's growing season
   - Travel to and from the site
   - Conduct a site evaluation to confirm:
     - Isolation distances
     - Depth to seasonal high water table through adequate soil analysis
     - Slope
     - Soil type through adequate soil analysis
     - Review proposed volume log for accuracy
     - Verify the septage waste disposal location on the site map provided by the hauler (hauler must flag the four corners of their disposal site)

3. For established disposal sites the inspection will consist of the following:

   - Review of the site location map.
   - Conduct a site evaluation to confirm:
     - Confirm that the permitted location(s) has/have not changed
     - Isolation distances are being met
     - Seasonal high water table
     - Review soil sampling results
   - Review that hauler agronomic calculations are established for the maximum application rate

- Review cropping plan
- Review vector attraction reduction and pathogen reduction methodology
- Review volume logs for accuracy
- Equipment used to manage septage waste
- Inspect storage and screening facilities (if applicable)
  - Guidance, as mandated by law, is currently being developed and will be made available to all health departments. Generally accepted septage waste storage facility management practices will also be posted on the DEQ Website when completed. The only septage storage facilities currently operated were constructed prior to October 12, 2004, when HB 5771 was signed into law. Since the law's passage, no septage storage facility can be constructed or operated without having prior DEQ approval.

4. Inspect receiving facilities.

   - These are the facilities, public or privately owned, that are part of a wastewater treatment system constructed to only treat septage waste or part of a larger wastewater treatment plant. The Local Entity will be required to use the receiving facility inspection checklist developed by the DEQ.

5. Complete the appropriate Septage Waste Servicers inspection checklist provided by the DEQ (for both vehicles and land disposal sites). Only septage waste servicers issued a valid operation permit or who are new to the business should be inspected. The Local Entity shall **complete all inspections no later than August 31, 2011**, and shall **submit the Request for Payment (RFP) to the Septage Waste Program no later than September 15, 2011**. Results of inspections shall be recorded on forms provided by the DEQ. Completed inspection reports shall be forwarded to the DEQ within four weeks following the inspection, but in no case later than October 15, 2005. Reports shall be sent to: Septage Waste Program, Solid Waste and Waste to Land Section, Residual Management Division, DEQ, P.O Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741. The contact person, Mr. Matthew Campbell, can be reached at 517-335-4178 or by e-mail at Campbellm4@michigan.gov.