

**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY  
SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY  
OPERATING PLAN**

**September 13, 2006  
Amended May 27, 2007  
Amended February 22, 2010  
Amended July 1, 2012  
Amended February 1, 2013  
Amended April 18, 2024  
Amended October 9, 2025**

**Facility Name & Address:**

Grand Traverse County  
Septage Treatment Facility  
1717 Ahlberg Road  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

**Facility Owner & Address:**

Grand Traverse County  
Department of Public Works  
2650 LaFranier Road  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

**Facility Operator & Address:**

Jacobs Engineering  
606 Hannah Avenue  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

**Facility Emergency Contact Information**

Jacobs Engineering  
On – Call Staff  
Phone: 231-922-2381

**Regulatory Authority:**

This plan has been developed in response to the regulatory requirements of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental

Protection Act, 1994 PA 451. The Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility has accepted septage and holding tank waste since 2005 and plans to continue to receive septage, holding tank, and grease trap wastes. Special waste may be delivered to GTCSTF on a case-by-case basis. Subsequently, this Septage Treatment Facility Operating Plan has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 324.11715b.

## Purpose:

The purpose of the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility (GTCSTF) is to serve the residents of participating townships by addressing difficulties associated with proper disposal of septage waste material including holding tanks and grease traps. The facility eliminates the problems associated with land application of septage waste, including frozen soil conditions in winter months, loss of required isolation areas due to continued development of neighboring properties, and loss of disposal properties due to increased public pressure.

The treatment facility was formerly constructed as a membrane bioreactor (MBR, however) due to numerous design issues the membrane portion of the facility was decommissioned and the MBR tanks were repurposed as sequencing batch reactor (SBR) tanks for flow treatment. Along with the SBR treatment system, an auto thermophilic aerobic digester (ATAD) is used for biosolids treatment and stabilization. Effluent from the SBR is discharged into the Garfield Township wastewater collection system for final treatment at the Traverse City Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility. The ATAD produces a Class B biosolids allowing for land application via subsurface injection per state and federal biosolids regulations.

## Location and Surrounding Area:

The GTCSTF is located next to the Grand Traverse County Road Commission facility and across from the Grand Traverse County Humane Society. The parcel is zoned Agricultural with Industrial zoned property to the east and Agricultural zoned property on three sides. The facility is located on a ridge above the Boardman River valley.

## Categories of Acceptable Material:

In general, the GTCSTF will accept domestic household septage waste, holding tank waste, grease trap material, portable toilet material and special waste. Special waste typically includes brewery, winery, and drinking water brine. Other special waste may be accepted at the facility if that material in its delivered state is not disruptive to the plant operations as determined by Grand Traverse County. All special waste is evaluated before permitting. Waste that has the potential to disrupt plant operations will not be accepted. All waste is subject to testing upon delivery and may be rejected if deemed potentially disruptive to plant operations.

## Service Area:

The service area for the GTCSTF is defined as all Townships within Grand Traverse County and Elmwood Township in Leelanau County. Material from other Townships will be accepted provided the following:

1. There is available treatment capacity AND
2. After the 2010 state fiscal year, beginning on October 1, 2010, the geographic service area of the GTCSTF shall not extend more than 25 radial miles from the GTCSTF.

## Fee Structure:

The GTCSTF will provide treatment on delivered material utilizing a fee structure determined by the facility's operation, maintenance, replacement, and capital costs. Special waste fees will be determined on a case-by-case basis. GTCSTF may adjust the fee structure at any time. The GTCSTF currently operates under the following fee structure:

Septage:	19 cents per gallon
Holding Tank:	6 cents per gallon
Grease:	20 cents per gallon

## Hours of Operation:

The GTCSTF operates to receive material seven days per week, 24 hours per day. GTCSTF may adjust the operating hours as needed.

## Hauler Licensing:

Material will be received by the GTCSTF from those septage-servicing agents licensed by the State of Michigan and Grand Traverse County (GTC). The County licensing process requires each service agent to enter into a contract with GTC and receive the required training for use of the facility. A copy of the hauler contract, which includes training requirements is provided as Attachment 1.

Haulers agree to comply with the provisions of the Uniform Septage Control Ordinance of 2004 as amended from time to time. These provisions are provided as an attachment to the hauler contract. Haulers must also abide by the following general unloading bay rules:

Hauler is responsible for repair costs associated with negligent and/or intentional destruction of property.

- Offloading rates shall remain less than 300 gallons per minute to reduce the

likelihood of equipment or process failure.

- Excessive blowing off or back pressure to unload trucks is not permitted. This practice could result in equipment damage and or injury.
- Release of oil onto facility floors deliberately or unintentionally is prohibited.
- Washing of vehicles is prohibited. Water can be used for cleaning spills associated with the offloading process only.
- Haulers are forbidden from accessing facility equipment via opening inspection hatches i.e. course screens, rock traps, etc.
- Hauler must alert facility personnel prior to offloading if there is suspicion that the load may pose a threat to the treatment system (i.e., evidence or potential industrial activity noted at location of origin).

## Delivery and Treatment Process:

The GTCSTF receives material from septage waste vehicles licensed and authorized to use the facility. Loads will be discharged from the vehicles and into the facility through one of two truck bays. The truck bays are drive-thru bays with automatic doors operated such that the bay is completely enclosed during the unload process.

The West unloading bay is equipped with equipment to offload grease loads independent of septage and holding tank waste. Because grease waste is delivered directly to the ATAD treatment system a hauler cannot deliver a grease load mixed with a holding tank or septage load on the same truck.

Unloading of the vehicles uses a quick connect couple hose attached directly to the vehicle. The material is processed through a rock trap, a flow meter, and finally through a ¼" screen. After passing through the screen, the material leaves the unloading building through underground piping and is sent to a 100,000-gallon influent equalization tank.

The equalization tank provides material storage capacity to allow a measured feed into the SBR vessel. Material is pumped from the influent equalization tank into an on-site pump station. The pump station then pumps the material to the SBR at a controlled rate.

The material in the SBR is subjected to a series of treatment phases starting with filling of the SBR tank, aeration / biological treatment, settling, decanting and solids removal. The treated decant is gravity fed to the post equalization tank where it can be stored until it is discharged to the sanitary sewer collection system. Discharge to the collection system typically occurs outside of peak hours.

As the concentration of solids increases in the SBR, a portion is drawn off, dewatered, and sent to the ATAD for biosolids processing.

Through aeration and extended detention time, the ATAD unit produces a Class B biosolid.

The GTCSTF utilizes a biofilter for odor control. Each component in the receiving and treatment process is covered and enclosed. The head space within each vessel is ducted to the odor control system. The air is processed through the ATAD unit for conditioning and sent on to the biofilter. The air enters the filter through a set of distribution piping located under a stock of root material. Bacterial growth on the root material provides air treatment and reduces odors. After passing through the root media, the treated air is discharged into the environment.

# Attachment 1: Hauler Training Documentation

## Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility Training Documentation

<b>Facility</b>	Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility 1717 Ahlberg Road Traverse City, MI 49686	
<b>Date of Training</b>		
<b>GTCSF Representative Providing Training</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>
<b>Hauler Representative Receiving Training</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>

### GTCSF Hauler Training Checklist

- ✓ Facility operating hours
- ✓ Review of acceptable materials and requirement to notify facility staff of potentially suspect load.
- ✓ Unloading process including:
  - Use of card reader
  - Entering the Facility
  - Positioning of truck within selected bay
  - Connection of unloading hose and proper care
  - Selection of material type and location
  - Cycle start
  - Ending an unloading cycle including receipt and manifest handling
  - Exiting the facility
- ✓ Review of alarm conditions, silencing alarms and resetting alarms
- ✓ Grease unloading procedures
- ✓ Use of facility restroom
- ✓ Emergency contacts
- ✓ Review of facility rules

## **EXHIBIT 2**

### **UNIFORM SEPTAGE CONTROL ORDINANCE OF 2004 ORDINANCE No:**

#### **AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE USE OF SEPTIC AND HOLDING TANKS, TO PROHIBIT THE DISCHARGE OF SEPTAGE ON THE GROUND SURFACE AND TO REQUIRE THE TREATMENT OF TOWNSHIP SEPTAGE AT THE GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY**

The Charter Township of Garfield Ordains:

WHEREAS following one or more public hearings and presentations before the Township by the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works, its engineers and others, the Township hereby makes the following legislative findings of fact:

A. The present and future discharge of untreated septage upon the ground surface creates a threat to the public health through the transmission of disease found in untreated human waste, and

B. The present and future discharge of untreated septage upon the ground surface threatens contamination of the surface and ground waters of the State and the lands surrounding the discharge, and

C. With the increase of development of land for residential use within the Township and in surrounding townships, the number of sites available for the safe disposal of untreated septage upon the ground surface within the Township decreases year by year, and

D. Winter weather in the Township and in the surrounding townships effectively prohibits the safe and proper discharge of septage upon the frozen ground surface inhibiting the pumping of septic tanks and holding tanks within the Township during the winter months, and

WHEREAS the Township has determined that the regulation of the use of septic and holding tanks and the discharge of untreated septage and holding tank waste is necessary in order to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the Townships residents and visitors, and

WHEREAS the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works has undertaken the construction of a Septage Treatment Facility which, when completed, will provide safe and effective treatment of septage and holding tank waste including grease trap waste, and

WHEREAS the Township has entered into or will soon enter into a contract with the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works to make that Septage Treatment Facility available for haulers pumping septage or holding tank waste or both within the Township, said Facility being lawfully able to accept all of such septic tank waste,

NOW, THEREFORE,

1. **TITLE**

This Ordinance may be known and cited as the Uniform Septage Control Ordinance of 2004.

2. **NO LAND DISCHARGE**

Upon the Effective Date, as described below, it shall be unlawful for any person to discharge untreated septage or holding tank waste upon any lands within the Township except as may be permitted in section 7 below. Biosolids produced by the Septage Treatment Facility are treated and are not subject to the limitation of this paragraph.

3. **FACILITY**

The Township hereby designates the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility for deposit and treatment of all septage and holding tank waste collected within the Township. All Septage Haulers collecting septage or holding tank waste within the Township shall transport that waste to the Facility and pay the treatment charges therefor in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Treatment Facility.

4. **NO DISCHARGE OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE**

No person shall discharge directly or indirectly into any septic or holding tank within the Township any prohibited substance or material other than domestic strength wastewater; domestic strength wastewater includes household products in customary concentrations.

5. **NO TRANSPORTATION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE**

No person shall transport or cause another to transport septage or holding tank waste containing a prohibited substance as defined herein to the Septage Treatment Facility unless the character of the waste is fully disclosed to the hauler and the Septage Treatment Facility before pumping, transportation, or receipt, as the case may be; any person causing another to transport or treat any septage or holding tank waste containing a prohibited substance shall be responsible for all of the costs incurred in connection with such transportation, testing, storing, and treatment of such waste.

**6. LIABILITY FOR COSTS**

The owner of premises upon which is located any septic or holding tank containing a prohibited substance as defined herein or material other than domestic strength wastewater shall be responsible for all of the costs incurred by the Township, any person, any hauler or treatment facility in transporting, testing, storing, and treating any such waste.

The charges for services which are under the provisions of Act 178 Public Acts of Michigan 1939 as amended are made a lien on all premises from which said septage or holding tank waste originated unless notice is given that a tenant is responsible, are hereby recognized to constitute such a lien and whenever any such charge against any piece of property shall be delinquent for six (6) months the Township official or officials in charge of the collection thereof shall certify annually, on September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, to the tax assessing officer of the Township the facts of such delinquency, whereupon such charge shall be by him entered upon the next tax roll as a charge against such premises and shall be collected and the lien thereof enforced, in the same manner as general Township taxes against such premises are collected and the lien thereof enforced; provided, however, where notice is given that a tenant is responsible for such charges and services by delivering to the Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works an affidavit deposing that a lease has been executed containing a provision that the lessor is not responsible for the payment of any charges for septage or holding tank services rendered to the premises no such lien shall attach during the term of the lease. The Township and the Department of Public Works shall have the right to refuse service to any premises in the event of any unpaid charges with respect to such premises under this section.

**7. ORDINANCE DOES NOT APPLY**

The restrictions of this Ordinance requiring treatment of septage and holding tank waste shall not apply to the owner of real property who services his or her own septic tank, portable toilet, or holding tank and who disposes of the resulting septage or holding tank waste upon the property upon which it originates provided that the parcel which is the source and destination of the septage is more than twenty (20) acres in size and meets the additional requirements of state law as provided in MCL 324.11704 as amended from time to time.

**8. D.P.W. NOTICE**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days following publication in accordance with law, provided that enforcement of the terms hereof shall be suspended until the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day following publication in the Traverse City Record Eagle of a notice by the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works that the Septage Treatment Facility is open to the public for the receipt of septage and holding tank waste. On the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day following publication of said notice, enforcement of this Ordinance shall begin.

9. **SEVERABILITY**

Whenever possible, each provision of this Ordinance should be interpreted in such a way as to be effective and valid under applicable law. If a provision is prohibited by or invalid under applicable law, it will be ineffective only to the extent of such prohibitions or invalidity, without invalidating the remainder of such provision or the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

10. **VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.**

10.1 **Municipal Civil Infraction**

Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined in Public Act 12 of 1994, MCL 600.113 and shall be subject to the following penalties:

10.1.1 For a first offense, the offender shall pay a fine of One Hundred and 00/100 (\$100.00) Dollars.

10.1.2 For a second or subsequent offense within ten (10) years of the date on which the person was found responsible for the first violation, the offender shall pay a fine of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars.

10.1.3 Each day this Ordinance is violated shall be considered a separate violation.

10.2 **Township Supervisor**

The Township Supervisor is hereby designated as the authorized official to issue municipal civil infraction citations directing alleged violators of this Ordinance to appear in court.

10.3 **Nuisance Per Se**

A violation of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be a nuisance per se and is declared to be offensive to the public health, safety and welfare.

10.4 **Civil Action**

In addition to enforcing this Ordinance through the use of a municipal civil infraction proceeding(s) the Township may initiate proceeding(s) in the Circuit Court to abate or eliminate the nuisance per se or any other violation of this Ordinance.

11. **DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Ordinance, the following definitions apply:

### **11.1 Biosolids**

Biosolids are the solid or semi-solid portion of septage and holding tank waste following treatment at the Septage Treatment Facility.

### **11.2 Holding Tank Waste**

Holding tank waste is any human excrement or other domestic or food service or restaurant waste or other material stored in one or more tanks permitted as a holding tank by the county health department in the county in which the tank is located which is not connected to a drain field or leaching field.

### **11.3 Person**

Person includes natural persons, firms, associations, corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, trusts, and all other entities.

### **11.4 Septage**

Septage is any human excrement, other domestic or restaurant waste or other material or substance removed from a portable toilet, septic tank, seepage pit, cesspool, septage lift station, or other enclosure used for the storage or decomposition of septage waste. Septage includes waste removed from grease traps which are a part of a food service or restaurant facility. Septage excludes waste removed from holding tanks. Septage excludes industrial waste, medical waste, or hazardous waste regulated under the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act MCL 324.8501 et seq.

### **11.5 Septage Hauler**

A person required to be licensed as a Septage Waste Servicer under MCL 324.11701 et seq. or under successor legislation.

### **11.6 Septage Treatment Facility**

The Septage Treatment Facility is composed of the facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, Michigan 49686, those portions of the sanitary sewer system used to transport the effluent from the facility to the Traverse City Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Traverse City Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.

## 11.7 Prohibited Substance:

11.7.1 Any substance which, alone or by interaction with other substances, will create the risk of fire or explosion hazard in the septic tank, or holding tank, collection pumper or at the septage treatment facility, or any gasoline or other petroleum product, kerosene, naphtha, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethers, alcohols, ketones aldehydes, peroxides, chlorates, perchlorates, bromates, carbides, hydrides, or sulfides.

11.7.2 Any substance having any corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structure, equipment, and personnel of the septic tank, or holding tank, collection pumper, or septage treatment facility including, but not limited to, concentrated acids, alkalis, chlorides, sulfides, fluoride compounds and any iron pickling wastes or concentrated plating solutions whether neutralized or not.

11.7.3 Any solid or viscous pollutants in amounts which will cause obstruction to the flow in the septic tank or holding tank, collection pumper or treatment facility or cause other interference with the proper operation of the septic tank or holding tank, collection pumper or septage treatment facility. Prohibited substances also include any garbage except domestic wastewater discharged from garbage disposal units in private dwellings that has been ground or comminuted to such a degree that all particles float or carry freely in suspension. Prohibited substance also includes waste which contains particles of a size greater than one-half (1/2) inch in any dimension; other wastes including, but not limited to, bones, hair, hides, or flesh, whole blood, recognizable portions of the human anatomy, tissue fluids, entrails, ashes, cinders, mud, straw, sand, wood, grass clippings, spent lime, stone or marble dust, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, asphalt residues, spent grains, spent hops, waste paper, Styrofoam, disposable diapers, and residues from refining or processing of fuel or lubricating oil;

11.7.4 Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors or fumes within the septic tank, collection pumper, or septage treatment facility in a quantity, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, that may cause acute worker health and safety problems, or interference with the collection system and treatment plant or that exceed standards promulgated by either the Environmental Protection Agency, or the State pursuant to any applicable statutory provisions.

11.7.5 Any waters or wastes containing suspended solids or dissolved matter of such character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle such materials in the collection system and septage treatment facility.

11.7.6 Any water or wastes containing algaecides, fungicides, herbicides, antibiotics or other pharmaceuticals, insecticides, strong oxidizing agents or strong reducing agents.

11.7.7 Any waste requiring an excessive quantity of chlorine or other chemical compound used for disinfection purposes or excessive treatment to meet the discharge requirements of the collection system and treatment plant.

11.7.8 Any water or waste containing substances which are not amenable to treatment, or which causes the treatment plant effluent to fail to meet the applicable discharge requirements and limitations.

11.7.9 Any substance which may cause sludge to be unsuitable for reclamation and reuse, or which may interfere with the reclamation process of the septage treatment facility, or which may preclude the treatment plant from selecting the most cost-effective alternative for sludge disposal or which may cause the treatment plant to be in noncompliance with sludge use or disposal criteria established by state or federal regulation.

11.7.10 Detectable concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, cyanide, lead, nickel, phosphorus, silver, zinc, sulfides, or sulphates, (except as the same may be present in trace amounts in domestic or household products) oil, grease, mercury or polychlorinated biphenols (PCBs), ethylene glycol-based antifreeze.

11.7.11 Any liquid industrial waste, medical waste, or hazardous waste regulated under the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act.

### Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_ first presented to the Township Board on \_\_\_\_\_ following publication in the Traverse City Record Eagle.

I further certify that the Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Garfield, County of Grand Traverse, Michigan at a regular/special meeting held \_\_\_\_\_, at which all members were present except:

Moved by:

Supported By:

The vote was as follows:

In Favor:

Opposed:

Abstaining:

I further certify that the meeting was conducted, and public notice there was given, pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act (Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended), minutes of such meetings were kept and will be made available as required by law and that said ordinance has been recorded in the Ordinance Book of the Township and that such recording has been authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Township Clerk.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Township Clerk  
Date of Certification:



GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY DPW

Septage Treatment Facility

HAULER MANIFEST

2650 LaFranier Road ~ Traverse City MI ~ 49686-8972

(231) 995-6039 ~ F(231) 929-7226



PLEASE PRINT

HAULER RECEIPT

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Antrim  Septic Tank  Holding Tank   
 Benzie   Failed 1st Pump Portable Toilet   
 Grand Traverse   Failed 2nd Pump Grease   
 Kalkaska   Frozen Special Waste   
 Leelanau   
 Wexford  GALLONS \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Antrim  Septic Tank  Holding Tank   
 Benzie   Failed 1st Pump Portable Toilet   
 Grand Traverse   Failed 2nd Pump Grease   
 Kalkaska   Frozen Special Waste   
 Leelanau   
 Wexford  GALLONS \_\_\_\_\_

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 Benzie   Failed 1st Pump Portable Toilet   
 Grand Traverse   Failed 2nd Pump Grease   
 Kalkaska   Frozen Special Waste   
 Leelanau   
 Wexford  GALLONS \_\_\_\_\_

DISCHARGE STATEMENT: All waste hereby discharged to the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility (GTCSTF) is non-hazardous and all the above information is accurate and inclusive, to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, I have been informed of the consequences and liabilities associated with the illegal discharge of HAZARDOUS WASTE into the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility by my supervisor and/or GTCSTF personnel.

Hauler Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Hauling Company Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility

<b>DPW Use Only</b>
Date of Contract Approval:
Hauler Contract Number:
Approved by: _____

## APPLICATION AND HAULER CONTRACT

This Application should be filled out and the attachments included. It should be submitted to the Director, Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works, 2650 LaFranier, Traverse City, Michigan 49686. Please allow five (5) business days to review the application. When approved by the Director, this Application will constitute a contract between the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works and Company identified in the Company Information block below and will continue in force and effect in accordance with its terms. The terms "Company" and "Hauler" are used interchangeably in this contract.

### PART ONE: APPLICATION - COMPANY (HAULER) INFORMATION

Company's Full Name:
Address
City / State / Zip
Telephone Number:
Name of Person Signing Application:
The Company is (select one)
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Corporation Name of President:
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Co-partnership Names of Partners:
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Limited Liability Company Names of Members:
<input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship Name of Owner:
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain)
Company's Federal Employer Identification Number:
Name EGLE Septage Hauler License is issued:
Number of EGLE Septage Hauler Licenses:
Date EGLE Hauler Septage Hauler License Expires:

### PART TWO: APPLICATION - DRIVER(S)

Each Hauler must register at least (1) one driver who will unload Hauler's loads of septage, holding tank, grease, and/or special waste at the Septage Treatment Facility.

Each registered driver must have completed the training program conducted by the DPW and Jacobs at the Facility. Hauler Training Documentation is attached as **Exhibit 1** to the attached Operations Plan for the Facility. Upon approval of this contract each registered driver will receive a card to operate the Facility. Use of the card by a registered driver obligates the Hauler to pay all charges incurred using the card. List the names of drivers who have completed the approved training course with whom you wish to register to use the Facility. Additional drivers may be registered at any time after completing training. The first card for a driver is free; a new card to replace cards destroyed, lost, or stolen is \$25.00. When the contract is approved, cards may be picked up at the Facility; each driver must sign for the card issued to him.

Driver Name: Driver Address: Date Course Completed:
Driver Name: Driver Address: Date Course Completed:
Driver Name: Driver Address: Date Course Completed:

Terms and conditions for use of cards are further detailed in Part Four, Section 12.

### **PART THREE: APPLICATION - INSURANCE**

Each Hauler is required to maintain and keep in force liability insurance against losses to person or property caused by Hauler in the conduct of its business including damage to the Septage Treatment Facility. Minimum insurance requirements are \$100,000 / \$300,000 at the present time. Please have your insurance agent forward a certificate of insurance to the DPW at the address above. Additional certificates should be provided when insurance is modified or renewed.

Name of Insurance Agent:
Insurance Agent Tx:
Policy Number:
Policy Limits:
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Insurance attached
<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate to be provided by agent

## **PART FOUR: HAULER CONTRACT TERMS and CONDITIONS**

When approved by the Director, the completed application constitutes a contract between the Hauler identified above and the County through its Board of Public Works as set forth above, and as follows:

### **1. Use of the Facility**

BPW grants Hauler the right to use the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility for the reception, disposal, and treatment of septage, holding tank, grease trap, and pre-approved special waste to be delivered to the Facility by the Hauler. This right shall be non-exclusive, subject to the operational conditions of the Facility and the Rules & Regulations of the Facility in effect and subject to modification from time to time.

### **2. Compliance**

In its use of the Facility, Hauler agrees to comply with the provisions of the Uniform Septage Control Ordinance of 2004 as amended from time to time. A copy of the Ordinance is attached as **Exhibit 2** and its requirements are incorporated by reference. Hauler further agrees to comply with the terms of this Contract, the Facility rules and policies, and all directions for use of the Facility adopted by the Facility operator and instructions from Facility operating personnel. This includes, but is not limited to, completing a Hauler Manifest for waste delivered to the Facility. This Manifest has been created by the DPW and may be amended from time to time. The current Manifest is attached as **Exhibit 3**.

### **3. Hours of Operation**

The Facility's initial hours of operation shall be 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The DPW shall have the right to vary the hours of operation depending on the needs of the system from time to time and shall give reasonable notice to Hauler. The DPW and the operator of the Facility shall have the right to take emergency action including limiting the use of the Facility or closing it altogether if the DPW shall determine in its sole discretion that it is necessary to take action to protect the integrity of the system, the public health, the welfare of the environment, or to comply with a request or order of governmental authorities with jurisdiction over the Facility.

### **4. No Damages**

Actions by the DPW and the operator of the Facility authorized or permitted under this Contract shall give rise to no cause of action on the part of the Hauler; it being understood that DPW's activities are being conducted on a "best efforts" basis and that no minimum level of service is guaranteed by DPW.

### **5. Hold Harmless**

Hauler agrees to hold the County of Grand Traverse, its Boards, and Commissions, agents, employees, and subcontractors, harmless from all costs, expenses and liability incurred or threatened

against any of them with respect to Hauler's collection, transportation, and delivery of septage, holding tank, grease trap, or other waste.

#### 6. No Representation or Guarantee

By entering into this contract with Hauler, DPW does not make any representation or warranty concerning the ability or qualifications of the Hauler to conduct its business.

#### 7. Equipment Operation

Hauler agrees to maintain Hauler's equipment used at the Facility in clean, sound, sanitary condition, and repair. No truck operated by Hauler in whole or in part for delivery of septage or holding tank waste to the Facility shall be operated in leaking condition or shall discharge waste upon the approach to the Septage Treatment Facility or at any location apart from the designated location at the Facility. Spills upon the premises of the Facility shall be reported immediately to the operator and the Hauler shall take such action as may be directed by the operator to correct the condition.

#### 8. Odor Control

The Hauler understands and agrees that control of odor at the Facility is of paramount importance. The Hauler agrees to discharge waste at the Facility only in the unload building with the doors closed for effective odor removal, except as may be directed by the operator of the Facility. Any Hauler receiving a complaint of odor from any person concerning the activities of the Hauler in the approach to or at the Facility shall immediately notify the Director of the DPW so that corrective action may be taken.

#### 9. Suspension and Termination

DPW shall have the right to suspend, limit, restrict or terminate Hauler's privileges under this Contract if the DPW determines that Hauler's conduct or omissions have violated the terms of the Uniform Septage Control Ordinance of 2004, the terms and conditions of this Contract, the Facility rules and policies, or have otherwise tended to impair the operation of the Facility or to bring its operation into disrepute. Failure to maintain vehicles used to discharge at the facility in clean, sound, sanitary condition is understood to be a violation.

- A. A suspension or restriction of privileges lasting three (3) days or less may be administratively imposed upon the Hauler by the Director of the DPW upon its determination without a hearing. No Hauler shall have its privileges restricted or suspended for more than three (3) business days in any calendar month without the hearing provided in this Contract.
- B. If the Director seeks to restrict or suspend Hauler's privileges for more than three (3) days in a calendar month, or to terminate this Contract, the Director shall first afford the Hauler a hearing before a committee appointed by the Board of Public Works for that purpose. After affording the Hauler a hearing, the Committee may take any action it deems appropriate including suspension or restriction of the Hauler's privileges, or termination of this Contract.

- C. Restriction of privileges may include, but are not limited to, requiring the Hauler only to discharge during certain hours when an operator is available to monitor Hauler's activities, additional training of Hauler's personnel, and/or special reporting requirements by Haulers.

#### 10. Term of Contract

The initial term of this contract shall be three (3) years from the date of approval set forth at the beginning of this Contract. Unless either party, before expiration of the term, gives written notice to the other not to renew the contract, this contract shall automatically be renewed annually up to (10) times. All charges due by Hauler to DPW shall be paid on or before the date of termination. All rights vested in the parties shall remain in effect following termination until the obligations are satisfied. The DPW may terminate this contract, or deny renewal, only for cause. Hauler shall maintain all licenses required for the operation of the Company in full force and effect. Hauler shall provide to DPW copies of license renewal and shall advise DPW of any adverse action taken by regulatory authorities with respect to Hauler's EGLE Hauler License.

#### 11. Terms of Contract

The terms and conditions of this Contract applicable to all haulers having contracts may be unilaterally amended by the DPW upon thirty (30) days advance notice to Hauler.

#### 12. Drivers

Cards permitting access to the Unload Building shall be issued to drivers designated by Hauler who have completed the training program provided by the DPW or its representative. The card will uniquely identify the Hauler and the name of the driver. Use of this card by any person obligates the Hauler to pay all charges incurred with respect to the driver's use of the Facility. Driver's cards shall be used only by the driver to whom they were issued. The DPW shall cancel the access privileges accorded to the card upon written request by Hauler. Requests made outside of regular business hours will be effective as of the first business day following. The DPW may amend from time to time the fee for issuing replacements for cards which are damaged, lost, or stolen.

Hauler will ensure that its drivers fully understand that costs associated with negligent and/or intentional destruction of property are the Hauler's responsibility.

The DPW has developed minimum guidelines and rules to help reduce the likelihood of equipment or process failure. These guidelines are expected to be followed to reduce risk of injury to life, equipment, or processes:

- Offloading rates shall remain less than 300 gallons per minute
- No excessive blowing off or back pressuring to unload trucks
- No washing of vehicles

13. Credit Information

Hauler consents to the DPW obtaining one or more credit reports or credit investigations on Hauler from time to time as DPW deems appropriate provided that DPW shall bear all the costs thereof.

14. Insurance Requirements

Hauler agrees to maintain and keep in force third-party liability insurance insuring against loss or damage to person or property arising out of Hauler’s operations including damage or loss to the Septage Treatment Facility. Hauler shall provide to DPW prior to approval of this Contract a certificate of insurance attesting to insurance meeting the minimum standards of this Contract and to supply further certificates whenever such insurance is modified or renewed. DPW has the right to set insurance requirements under this contract from time to time; at the present time the DPW has set limits of \$100,000 per occurrence with a maximum of \$300,000 for more than one occurrence.

15. Billing

The DPW will prepare written invoices to be submitted to Hauler on a schedule as determined by the DPW at its sole discretion. Hauler agrees to make payment of all amounts due by the due date identified on the invoice and the DPW reserves the right to charge a (5) five percent late fee on any payment received after the due date.

16. Rebates

If Hauler makes payment of all invoices within a calendar year in timely manner (prior to due date), the DPW agrees to rebate Hauler no later than February 28 of the following year an amount equal to 2% of the total payments made the previous year.

*END OF CONTRACT*

Application Submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name

Witness:

\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Officer

Application Approved:

Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works

Witness:

\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

January 11, 2013

Michael Slater, Director  
Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works  
Public Service Building  
2650 LaFranier Road  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686-8972

Dear Mr. Slater:

SUBJECT: Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan Amendment  
Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (ODWMA) is in receipt of the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility's (GTCSTF) septage waste documentation summarizing the amendment to its operating plan. The documentation and amended plan will be posted on the Septage Waste Program website as required under Section 11715b.(10)(a)(b) of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Be advised that the receiving facility must operate in accordance with the approved plan. If a change in operations or conditions is anticipated, please file an amendment to the plan at least thirty (30) days prior to the proposed date for implementation.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 517-335-4178; [campbellm4@michigan.gov](mailto:campbellm4@michigan.gov); or at DEQ, ODWMA, Environmental Health Section, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741.

Sincerely,

Matthew Campbell  
Environmental Quality Specialist  
Septage Waste Program  
Environmental Health Programs Unit  
Environmental Health Section  
Office of Drinking Water  
and Municipal Assistance

mc:/cfl

cc: Mr. Thomas Buss, Environmental Health Director,  
Grand Traverse County Health Department



**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING  
2650 LAFRANIER ROAD  
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49686-8972  
(231) 995-6039 • FAX (231) 929-7226

Matthew Campbell  
Septage Waste Program Coordinator  
On Site Wastewater Unit  
Water Bureau, MDEQ  
P.O. Box 30473  
Lansing, MI. 48909-7973

December 14, 2012

Re: Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility  
Operating Plan Amendment

Dear Matt:

At the December 13, 2012 meeting of the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works passed Resolution 2012-10 effectively raising the rates on septic waste to \$0.18 per gallon, and on holding tank waste to \$0.05 per gallon effective February 1, 2013. These rates effect waste brought to the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, MI.

I am enclosing a signed copy of Resolution 2012-10 and an amended Operating Plan for your review and use. The rate increase will be posted twice in the local newspaper prior to the rates going into effect. If you have any questions, or concerns, regarding the action taken by the board please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Slater  
DPW Director

**RECEIVED**  
**DEC 17 2012**  
**DEQ-RMD**

**RESOLUTION 2012-10**  
**RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH RAISING THE RATES TO PROCESS SEPTIC AND HOLDING TANK WASTE**  
**AT THE GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY**

At a regular meeting of the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works held on December 13, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works, on a Motion made by JACK KELLY, and seconded by Michael Gillman, by a vote of 7 in favor (Zollinger, Gillman, Kelly, Wright, Manigold, Korn and Lile) to 3 against (Thomas, McElyea, and Radtke), and 1 excused (Elashkar) passed the following resolution changing the rates to accept septic and holding tank waste at the Septage Treatment Facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, Michigan.

**Recitals**

- A. The Board of Public Works (BPW) seeks a reliable source of funding for the operations, maintenance, and improvements at the Septage Treatment Facility (STF).
- B. The STF was built to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Grand Traverse County and Elmwood Township in Leelanau County, and also the protection of the groundwater and surface waters by processing human waste that was being land applied on fields throughout the county.
- C. Studies and reports conducted by independent auditing and engineering firms, and citizen focus groups, have concluded that the STF is important to the area and needs to attain long term financial sustainability.
- D. Operational, administrative, electrical and long term debt costs have all been evaluated and reduced as identified and recommended.
- E. The STF was built predicated on the understanding that user fees would cover the costs of operation, maintenance, and debt service.
- F. A Septage Treatment Facility Business Plan was developed and approved by the BPW on October 27, 2010 that recommended rate increases for processing waste be implemented on or before the year 2013. The rates recommended by the STF Business Plan being: \$0.18 per gallon for septic tank waste; \$0.05 per gallon for holding tank waste.
- G. A rate analysis was performed to identify and quantify the average costs to process the various types of waste brought to the Septage Treatment Facility that concurs with the costs recommended in the Business Plan.

**Resolution**

**Therefore, it is resolved that:**

The Board of Public Works hereby sets the rates for septic waste at \$0.18 per gallon and holding tank waste at \$0.05 per gallon effective on February 1, 2013.

The Board of Public Works further directs staff to make proper notification of these new rates to the State of Michigan, Department of Environmental Quality and to publish at least two notifications of these rate increases in the local newspaper prior to the rates going into effect.

Dated: December 13, 2012

  
By: Rob Manigold, Vice-Chairman, BPW

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that effective Friday February 1, 2013 the rate for processing septic tank waste will be \$0.18 per gallon and the rate for processing holding tank waste will be \$0.05 per gallon. These rates effect waste brought to the County Septage Treatment Facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, MI.

December 17, 2012, January 7, 2013-2T

321107

**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY  
SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY  
OPERATING PLAN  
September 13, 2006  
Amended May 27, 2007  
Amended February 22, 2010  
Amended July 1, 2012  
Amended February 1, 2013**

**Facility Name & Address:**

Grand Traverse County  
Septage Treatment Facility  
1717 Ahlberg Road  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

**Facility Owner & Address:**

Grand Traverse County  
Dept. of Public Works  
2650 LaFranier Road  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

**Facility Operator & Mailing Address:**

OMI  
606 Franklin Street  
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

**Regulatory Authority:**

This plan has been developed in response to the regulatory requirements of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451. The Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility has accepted septage and holding tank waste since 2005 and plans to continue to receive septage, holding tank and grease trap wastes. Special waste may be delivered to GTCSTF on a case by case basis. Subsequently, this Septage Treatment Facility Operating Plan has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 324.11715b.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility (GTCSTF) is to serve the residents of participating townships by addressing difficulties associated with proper disposal of septage waste material including holding tanks and grease traps. The facility will eliminate the problems associated with land application of septage waste including frozen soil conditions in winter months, loss of required isolation

areas due to continued development of neighboring properties, loss of disposal properties due to increased public pressure.

The treatment facility will utilize membrane bioreactor (MBR) for flow treatment along with an autothermophilic aerobic digester (ATAD) for biosolids treatment. Effluent from the MBR will be discharged into the Garfield Township wastewater collection system for final treatment at the Traverse City Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility. The ATAD will produce a Class A biosolids.

#### Location and Surrounding Area:

The GTCSTF is located next to the Grand Traverse County Road Commission facility and the Grand Traverse County Humane Society. The parcel is zoned Agriculture with Industrial zoned property to the east and Agriculture zoned property on three sides. The facility is located on a ridge above the Boardman River valley.

#### Categories of Acceptable Material:

In general, the GTCSTF will accept domestic household septage waste, holding tank waste, grease trap material, portable toilet material and special waste. The facility may accept special waste such as industrial type waste material, landfill leachate or other material as long as that material in its delivered state is not disruptive to the plant operations as determined by Grand Traverse County. Waste that is disruptive to plant operations will not be accepted. All waste is subject to testing upon delivery and may be rejected if disruptive to plant operations.

#### Service Area:

The service area for the GTCSTF is defined as all Townships within Grand Traverse County and Elmwood Township in Leelanau County. Material from other Townships will be accepted provided the following:

1. There is available treatment capacity AND
2. After the 2010 state fiscal year, beginning on October 1, 2010, the geographic service area of the GTCSTF shall not extend more than 25 radial miles from the GTCSTF.

#### Fee Structure:

The GTCSTF will provide treatment on delivered material under the following fee structure:

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Septage:      | 18 cents per gallon |
| 2. Holding Tank: | 5 cents per gallon  |
| 3. Grease:       | 19 cents per gallon |

Fees are based on facility operation costs, maintenance costs, replacement costs and capital costs. Special waste fees will be determined on a case by case basis. GTCSTF may adjust the fee structure in the future.

#### Hours of Operation:

The GTCSTF will initially be open to receive material seven days per week, 24 hours per day. GTCSTF may adjust the operating hours in the future.

#### Hauler Licensing:

Material will be received by the GTCSTF from those septage-servicing agents licensed by the State of Michigan and Grand Traverse County (GTC). County licensing process will require each service agent to enter into a contract with GTC and received the required training for use of the facility.

#### Delivery and Treatment Process:

The GTCSTF will receive material from septage waste vehicles licensed and authorized to use the facility. Loads will be discharged from the vehicles and into the facility through one of two truck bays. The truck bays are drive thru bays with automatic doors operated such that the bay is completely enclosed during the unload process.

Unloading of the vehicles uses a quick connect couple hose attached directly to the vehicle. The material is processed through a rock trap, meter, multiple sensors for detecting "hot" loads and finally through a ¼" screen. Subsequent to passing through the screen the material leaves the unload building through underground piping and is sent to a 100,000 gallon equalization tank.

The equalization tank provides volume of material storage to provide a measured feed into the bioreactor vessel. Material is pumped from the equalization tank through a 0.7-millimeter screen and into an on-site pump station. The pump station then pumps the screened material to the bioreactor at a controlled rate.

The material in the bioreactor is aerated and biologically treated while a portion is passed through a membrane canister; that portion of the material that passes through the membrane as permeate/effluent is sent to a post equalization tank. If desired, the effluent can be stored in the post equalization tank for discharge into the sewer collection system during off-peak hours.

As the concentration of solids accumulates in the bioreactor a portion is drawn off, dewatered and sent to the ATAD for biosolids processing. Through aeration and detention time the ATAD unit produces a Class A biosolid.

## Odor Control

The GTCSTF utilizes a biofilter for odor control. Each component in the receiving and treatment process is covered and enclosed. The head space within each vessel as well as the space within the receiving building is ducted to the odor control system. The air is processed through the ATAD unit for conditioning and sent on to the biofilter. The air enters the filter through a set of distribution piping located under a stock of root material. Bacteria growth on the root material provides the air treatment and removes the odor. Once passing through the root media the cleaned air is discharged into the environment.