MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Minimum Well Isolation Distances

(From Contamination Sources and Buildings)
Part 127, Act 368, P.A. 1978 and Act 399, P.A. 1976

The following table lists sources of contamination and the **minimum** well isolation distances required from those sources by state codes. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and local health departments have authority to issue deviations from these minimum isolation distances on a case-by-case basis. Criteria for issuance of deviations are set forth in R 325.1613 of the Rules for Part 127, and R 325.10809 of the Rules for Act 399.

* = For the isolation distances marked with a single asterisk, the isolation distance is for a source of contamination which is not specifically listed in the rules. However, the source of contamination is interpreted as belonging in a general contamination source group (example - a sewage holding tank is the same as a septic tank) which is listed in the rules, and therefore, the isolation distance listed in this document is **required**.

** = For the isolation distances marked with a double asterisk, the isolation distance is from a source of contamination that is not specifically named in the rules. However, EGLE has established a **recommended** isolation distance based on the contaminant involved, the risk to public health, and other factors. Under the general authority of a health officer's responsibility to protect the public health, health officers may modify this recommended isolation distance, either increasing or decreasing it, on a case-by-case basis.

Required Minimum Isolation Distance (in feet) by state code:

CONTAMINATION SOURCE	Part 127, Act 368, Public Act 1978	Act 399, Public Act 1976 IIb and III	Act 399, Public Act 1976 I and IIa
Agricultural chemical or fertilizer storage or preparation area	150	800	2000
Animal waste lagoon or manure storage	*150	800	2000
Animal or poultry yard	50	75	200
Brine wells or injection well	**150	**800	**2000
Building or projection thereof	3	3	3
Cemetery and graves	**50	*75	*200
Cesspool	50	75	200
Chemical Storage	150	800	2000
Contaminant plumes, known (Part 201, LUST sites, etc.)	**300	**800	**2000
Drainfield	50	75	200
Drywell	50	75	200
Footing drain	10	10	10
Fuel/chemical storage tanks – Underground or above grade and associated piping - **depot/tank farm**	300	800	2000
Fuel/chemical storage tanks – Underground or above grade and associated piping **1,100 gal. or larger, without secondary containment**	300	800	2000
Fuel/chemical storage tanks – Underground or above grade and associated piping **1,100 gal. or larger, with secondary containment**	50	800	2000

CONTAMINATION SOURCE	Part 127, Act 368, Public Act 1978	Act 399, Public Act 1976 IIb and III	Act 399, Public Act 1976 I and IIa
Fuel/chemical storage tanks – Underground or above grade and associated piping **less than 1,100 gal. that store motor or heating fuel for noncommercial purpose or consumptive use on premises where fuel is stored**	50	800	2000
Fuel/chemical storage tanks – Underground or above grade and associated piping **less than 1,100 gal. that store motor fuel for commercial purpose**	*50	800	2000
Fuel/chemical storage tanks – Underground or above grade and associated piping **located in a basement, regardless of size**	*50	800	2000
Grease trap	50	*75	*200
Kennel	50	*75	*200
Landfill or dump sites (Active or Inactive)	800	800	2000
Liquid waste draining into the soil	50	*75	200
Metering station for pipeline	*300	*300	*300
Municipal wastewater effluent or sludge disposal area (land surface application or subsurface injection)	300	800	2000
Municipal wastewater lagoon	*300	800	2000
Oil or gas well	300	300	300
Other wastewater handling or disposal unit	50	*75	*200
Petroleum product processing or bulk storage	300	800	2000
Pipeline for gas, oil	*300	*300	*300

CONTAMINATION SOURCE	Part 127, Act 368, Public Act 1978	Act 399, Public Act 1976 IIb and III	Act 399, Public Act 1976 I and IIa
Privy/outhouse	50	75	200
Seepage pit	50	75	200
Septic tank	50	75	200
Septage waste (land application area)	800	800	2000
Sewage holding tank	50	*75	*200
Sewage lagoon serving a single family dwelling	50	75	200
Sewage lagoon effluent – land application area	50	800	2000
Sewage or liquid waste draining into soil	50	*75	*200
Sewage pump chamber, transfer station, or lift station	50	75	200
Sewer, buried gravity (sanitary or storm) – service weight or heavier ductile-iron or cast iron, or schedule 40 PVC, all with watertight joints	10	75	200
Sewer, buried pressure (sanitary or storm) – watertight joints (pressure tested after installation to 100 psi), equivalent to Schedule 40 or SDR 21, and meets or exceeds ASTM Specifications D1785-91 or D2241-89	10 (by written deviation only)	75	200
Sewer, buried gravity or pressure sewer (sanitary or storm) – constructed of materials not meeting the specifications listed in the two categories above, or the materials are unknown. Examples: SDR-26, SDR-35, ABS-40	50	75	200

CONTAMINATION SOURCE	Part 127, Act 368, Public Act 1978	Act 399, Public Act 1976 IIb and III	Act 399, Public Act 1976 I and IIa
Sump pit – Receiving other than household waste (footing drain, roof drain, etc.)	10	10	10
Sump pit – Receiving household waste (laundry, softener backwash, sink waste, etc.)	50	75	200
Surface water (lake, river, stream, pond, ditch, etc.)	10	75	200
Unfilled space below ground surface (except an approved basement, basement offset, or crawl space beneath single family dwelling)	10	10	10

Note: The above listed isolation distances are **minimum** distances. The regulatory agency has the authority to increase the minimum isolation distance based on factors such as geology, groundwater flow direction, well construction, type of contaminant, etc.

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

People with disabilities may request this material in an alternative format by emailing EGLE-Accessibility@Michigan.gov or calling 800-662-9278.