

Ordinance 60-2

Septic Tanks

8/16/1960

ORDINANCE NO. 60-2

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, BEAVER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, PROVIDING FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL, SETTING FORTH SPECIFICATIONS, TABLES, TESTS, RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SEPTIC TANKS AND SEPTIC TANK SYSTEMS, PROVIDING FOR FEES AND IMPOSING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Hopewell Township, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by authority of the same:

SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful for any person, persons, partnership, association or corporation to permit the flow of waste, sewage, feces, used water, or other similar foul matter except into a sanitary sewer system or into a septic tank.

SECTION 2. Where property abuts along a duly approved sanitary sewer, connections shall be made to that sanitary sewer of all waste, sewage, feces, used water, or other similar foul matter, unless a conditional exception or variance is recommended by the Township Engineer or other officer or agent designated by the Township and approved by the Township Commissioners.

SECTION 3. Where such waste, sewage, feces, used water or other similar foul matter is directed or caused to flow into a septic tank, a permit shall be procured at the time of the installation of the same and a fee in the sum of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars shall be paid to the Township Secretary at the time of making the application for the construction of the same.

SECTION 4. All such applicants shall at the time of filing of the application submit a plan accompanied by a percolation test report, specifications showing the location, size and kind of material to be used, which plans and specifications and percolation test report shall be subject to approval by the Township Engineer.

SECTION 5. Percolation tests shall be conducted by the Township Engineer or any other officer or agent designated or approved by the Township and shall follow the procedure and requirements as set forth in PERCOLATION TESTS and TABLE III.

SECTION 6. All septic tanks now in use or hereafter to be constructed shall comply with the capacity requirements as set forth in TABLE I.

SECTION 7. Where the house sewer enters the septic tank, there shall be a tee placed on its back and a vent, four (4) inches in diameter run to the grade. This vent pipe must be constructed at least twelve (12) inches below the surface of extra heavy cast iron pipe and shall be closed with an approved vent cap or return bend.

SECTION 8. Absorption ditches must be at least ten (10) feet from an adjoining property line.

SECTION 9. All absorption ditches, distribution and disposal fields and facilities now in use or hereafter to be constructed shall comply with the requirements as set forth in TABLE II. The ditches shall be filled as follows:

1. There shall be six (6) inches of broken stone, or other approved materials at the bottom.
2. The tile shall then be laid and covered with enough broken stone to make a layer two (2) inches above the top of the tile.
3. Upon this shall be laid a covering of untreated building paper.
4. And, shall be back-filled with earth.

SECTION 10. All absorption ditches and septic tanks shall be left open until passed upon and approved by the Township Engineer or his agent, after which all covering materials having been prepared beforehand, the absorption ditch or septic tank

shall be closed in the presence of the Township Engineer or any other officer or agent designated by the Township without unnecessary delay.

SECTION 11. The standards of the Pennsylvania Department of Health TABLES I, II, III and PERCOLATION TESTS procedures referred to in this ordinance are hereby incorporated by reference thereto and adopted by the Township of Hopewell and are on file at the office of the Township Secretary.

SECTION 12. In the event that an existing septic tank system does not meet the requirements and specifications as set forth in this ordinance, upon any complaint, after investigation by the Township Engineer or any other officer or agent designated by the Township, it appearing to the Township Commissioners that said complaint is justified and that a public health hazard exists, it shall be the duty of the Township Secretary to give written notice to the offending person or corporation to make the necessary changes within thirty (30) days in order to make said septic tank or septic tank system conform to the requirements and specifications of this ordinance. Upon failure so to comply within the said thirty (30) day period, such person, firm or corporation shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 13. Any person or persons failing to comply with the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction of each and every violation be subject to a fine of not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars and not more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars or to suffer imprisonment in the Beaver County Jail for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days, or both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of a Justice of the Peace, together with costs of prosecution in each case.

SECTION 14. The provisions of this ordinance shall be severable and if any of the provisions shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not



effect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance. It is hereby declared as the legislative intent that this ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional or invalid provisions not have been included therein.

SECTION 15. All ordinances or parts thereof conflicting with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED into an ordinance this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1960.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP

By \_\_\_\_\_ President.

ATTEST:

Charlotte M. Buffington  
Secretary.

Re: *Ordinance No. 60-2*

Recall of TABLE I

TABLE I	
Minimum Capacities of Septic Tanks	
Number of Bedrooms	Minimum Liquid Capacity of Tank in Gallons*
2 or less	750
3	900
4	1000
For additional bedrooms add 250 gallons	

\* These capacities need not be increased for inclusion of garbage grinder.

Re: Ordinance No. 60-2

Draft of TABLE II

TABLE II

Minimum diameter of tile	4 in.
Minimum no. of lines per field	3
Maximum length of each line	75 ft.
Minimum trench width	18 in.
Maximum trench width	36 in.
Preferred depth of lines	18 in.
Maximum depth of lines	36 in.
Maximum grade of lines	3 in. per 75 ft.
Minimum space between trenches	6 ft.
Minimum filter material beneath tile	6 in.
Minimum filter material over tile	2 in.

Ref: Ordinance No. 60-2

Depth of TABLE III

TABLE III

Average time required for water to fall one inch in minutes	Required absorption area (Area in bottom of absorption trench in square feet per bedroom)*
1 or less	70
2	85
3	100
4	115
5	125
10	165
15	190
30	250
45	300
60	330
Over 60	Unsuitable

\* These areas need not be increased for inclusion of an automatic washing machine and garbage grinder.