



Mount Pleasant Waterworks Operating Policy

Policy No.: 7.07	Septic System Maintenance
06 - Operating	
REASON FOR POLICY	
To ensure the protection of public health and the environment through the proper maintenance of septic systems located within the Mount Pleasant Waterworks (MPW) service area.	
DEFINITIONS	
<i>These definitions apply to the terms as they are used in this policy.</i>	
Term	Definition
Baseline Inspection	A thorough evaluation of an operating septic system to determine whether the system is functioning as designed, is not exhibiting signs of failure, and is being operated properly.
Existing Septic System	System which has been serving a legally occupied dwelling or structure prior to the adoption of this policy.
New Septic System	Installation of a new septic system to serve a parcel located within the MPW service area that does not have public wastewater available.
Responsible Party	Legal property owner of record or individual (heir) with the ability to provide evidence establishing the relationship to the deceased property owner.
Septic System	Any system of piping, tanks, drainfields, or other facilities designed to function as a unit to convey, store, treat and/or dispose of sanitary sewage by means other than discharge into a public sewer system. This may be either an on-site sewage disposal system (OSDS) or an engineered specialized onsite wastewater system (SOWS)
Water Only Customer	Property located within MPW's service area connected to the public water system that does not have access to public wastewater service as defined in MPW Resolution 04-2022, as amended from time to time and the Town of Mount Pleasant Code of Ordinances, Chapter 51 of Title V.

POLICY

MPW will develop and administer a Septic System Maintenance Program to improve the overall performance and management of septic systems operating within MPW's service area that includes:

1. Developing MPW Guidelines for Septic System Maintenance Program to include but not limited to:
 - a. Developing and maintaining an inventory of existing septic systems located within its designated service area.
 - b. Establishing program participation for Phase I to include:

- Requiring participation in the program for a property owner installing a new septic system in the Designated Program Area, as defined in the Guidelines, prior to MPW approving the availability of public water service.
 - Requiring participation in the program for new accounts or transfer of account where a septic tank exists prior to MPW providing water.
 - Offering existing MPW Water Only customers with a current septic tank the option to participate in the program.
- c. Establishing a monthly maintenance fee for properties enrolled in the program and incorporated into MPW’s current rates schedule.
- d. Developing a Septic System Maintenance Agreement to include but not limited to:
- Extent of maintenance and repairs covered under the program.
 - Baseline inspection, with recommendations for repair and/or improvement (if necessary) prior to enrolling in the program.
 - Annual inspections
 - Frequency of pumps outs and disposal of solids and liquids
 - Responsibilities of the property owner regarding the proper use of the septic system and requirements to participate in the maintenance program.
 - Responsibilities of MPW will be to administer the maintenance program as stated in the Maintenance Program Guidelines.
2. MPW will discontinue water service for nonpayment according to Policy 4.01.07 Disconnection of Water Service.

The General Manager and/or designee shall have the authority to develop additional requirements and procedures consistent with this Policy that govern the implementation of this Policy.

The fulfillment of this policy is the joint responsibility of the Commissioners, employees, and customers of MPW. Cooperation shall be required on all levels for the success of this policy.

REFERENCES

- MPW Guidelines for Septic System Maintenance Program
- MPW Resolution No. 04-2022
- MPW East Cooper Wastewater Management Plan
- MPW Current Budget Resolution
- MPW Policy 4.01.07 Disconnection of Water Service
- Town of Mount Pleasant Ordinances Chapter 51 of Title V
- SCDHEC Regulation r61-56, Onsite Wastewater System

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