

Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act's Requirement for Septage Management

Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management
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Bijan Aidun
Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development

What is the big deal with septage?

- Human and domestic liquid waste
- Health concern
 - Pathogens – bacteria, viruses
- Environmental concern
 - Nutrients – nitrogen, phosphorus
- Odours
- Vector attraction
- Debris
- Hot Public issue



Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulations

Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA) Section 176:

No person shall dispose of waste (septage) except:

a) at a waste management facility that has the appropriate approval, registration or notice as required under this Act, or

- Approved wastewater treatment facility
- Registered lagoon

b) in accordance with the written authorization of the Director

- Septage haulers must obtain a Letter of Authorization for land application of Septage

Septage Management / Disposed.

Disposed at an approved wastewater management facility



Septage Management / Disposed.

Land Applied with a letter of authorization



Septage Management / Disposed.

Illegal disposal



Letter of authorization issued to septage hauler

- Land apply only “Domestic” wastewater/septag
- Shall not apply on snow or frozen land
- Set back requirement from:
 - Water bodies and wells
 - Areas zoned for residential or devoted to urban use
 - Occupied dwellings
 - Property boundary
- Land application rate will depend on
 - Soil type
 - Slope of the land
 - Worked/Tilled into the soil or not

Letter of authorization issued to septage hauler

- Restriction for land use after application
- Record keeping
 - Source of wastewater / septic
 - Volume
 - Date, location,

How to prepare the Septage hauling industry to meet future demands

- Rules and requirement are there to protect both the Environment and the septic hauling Industry
- It is important that the requirements are well understood and well carried out

How to prepare the Septage hauling industry to meet future demands

- Suggested path forward and their key advantages

Concepts	Advantages
Training Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the industry • Opportunity to expand beyond septage collection and disposal
Certification program for the septic hauler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to expand services
New Regulations – to require certification for septage hauler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level playing field

Question and Discussion