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To: North Carolina Septage Management Firms
From: Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section
Subject: 2018 Firm Permitting & Annual Fees

The N.C. Division of Waste Management operates a Septage Management Program in accordance with G.S. 130A-291. **Every septage management firm is required by General Statute to obtain a permit to operate prior to starting business and prior to the start of each calendar year.**

The N.C. Septage Management Rules, 15 NCAC 13B, were last amended April 1, 2010. If you would like a copy of the rules, please contact our office at (919) 707-8285 or you can download a copy of the rules from our website at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/waste-management-rules/septage>. Attention should be paid to Section .0833 which requires the submission of certain information and the payment of an annual fee to the Department to obtain a permit.

Your 2018 permit fee can be paid by check payable to the **DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT** and mailed along with a completed application. Should your check be returned for non-payment, a fee of \$25.00 will be charged. If the check is not adjusted by January 1, 2018, your fee payment will be considered late which will subject you to the 50% late fee.

You may also pay your annual fee online with a credit card, debit card, or checking account. Visit <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wm/sw/epayment>. See your invoice for details. All other application materials must still be submitted to Corinne Law, Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section, 1646 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1646.

Please note that the General Statutes, GS 130A-291.1(e2) provides that a 50% late fee is required if the annual fee payment and a completed application are not submitted by January 1, 2018.

Reminder: As of 2017, a signed "Recertification of Pumper Vehicle(s)" form must be submitted along with the application materials and fee. Your application will not be considered complete if you do not submit this form. **We no longer require photographs.**

Everyone must submit a completed Firm Application, Vehicle Recertification, and fee. To assist you in completing the proper forms we have listed the methods of septage disposal authorized by the rules.

- 1) **If your firm discharges septage at an approved wastewater treatment plant, either at the plant, through use of an assigned manhole, or reintroduces partially treated liquid back into a grease trap, submit the following:**

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- a. *"Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm"*.
 - b. Annual fee payment.
 - c. *"Recertification of Pumper Vehicle(s)"* statement.
 - d. Written authorization on official letterhead or an original, **notarized** *"Authorization to Discharge at a Wastewater Treatment Facility"*, for each plant used, indicating:
 - Type(s) of septage to be discharged at the facility
 - Where septage can be discharged at the facility or in the collection system
 - Counties or geographic area from which septage will be accepted
 - The date the authorization will expire.
- 2) **If your firm discharges septage at a permitted Septage Land Application Site (SLAS) or a Septage Detention or Treatment Facility (SDTF) and if the site is permitted to YOU, submit the following:**
- a. An *"Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm"*.
 - On Question 7 (b) you must give the permit number and the expiration date of your permitted Septage Land Application Site.
 - On Question 7(c) you must give the permit number and expiration date for your permitted Septage Detention or Treatment Facility.
 - If you do not have a Septage Treatment or Storage Facility, you must submit an *"Authorization to Discharge Septage to a Wastewater Treatment Facility"* as an alternative for discharging.
 - b. Annual fee payment.
 - c. *"Recertification of Pumper Vehicle(s)"* statement.
- 3) **If your firm discharges septage at a permitted Septage Land Application Site (SLAS) or a Septage Detention or Treatment Facility (SDTF) that is permitted to SOMEONE ELSE, submit the following:**
- a. An *"Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm"*.
 - b. Annual fee payment.
 - c. *"Recertification of Pumper Vehicle(s)"* statement.
 - e. An *"Authorization to Discharge Septage at a Septage Land Application Site Permitted to Someone Other Than Yourself"*. The person to whom the site is permitted must sign this form. The permit number and expiration date must be shown in question # 7(b) on the firm application.
 - f. An *"Authorization to Discharge at a Septage Detention or Treatment Facility Permitted to Someone Other Than Yourself"*. This form must be signed by the person to whom the facility is permitted. The permit number and expiration date must be shown in question # 7(c) on the firm application.
 - g. If you are not authorized to use someone else's Septage Treatment or Storage Facility, then you must submit an *"Authorization to Discharge Septage to a Wastewater Treatment Facility"*.
- 4) **If you are no longer operating a Septage Management Firm, please sign and return the enclosed "Notice of Ceased Operation as a Septage Management Firm".**

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The use of **ANY** Septage Land Application Site or Septage Treatment or Storage Facility for which a permit has not been issued is a violation of 15A NCAC 13B .0835(a) and/or 15A NCAC 13B .0836(a). A violation of these rules could result in the assessment of an administrative penalty of up to \$15,000 per day per violation or you may be subject to enforcement actions including penalties, injunction from operation of a solid waste management facility or a solid waste collection service and any such further relief as may be necessary to achieve compliance with the North Carolina Solid Waste Management Act and Rules. If you are interested in obtaining a septage land application site, please contact our office and we will be glad to provide the necessary information for you to start this process.

If you do not submit proof of an approved septage disposal site, you will not be permitted as a Septage Management Firm. If you have any questions, please contact Corinne Law, Environmental Specialist, at (919) 707-8285 or Corinne.Law@ncdenr.gov. Thank you for your cooperation.