



SEWAGE EJECTORS - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I install a new sewage ejector?

New installations of sewage ejectors are not permitted.

Do I have to get rid of my existing ejector?

Only if the property on which the ejector is located is being transferred or subdivided, at which time owners have several options.

Under what circumstances can I keep my ejector?

To be retained following transfer or subdivision, an existing ejector must not be located in an environmentally sensitive area, must be located on a minimum of 4 hectares (10 acres), and must meet all other regulatory requirements.

Environmentally sensitive areas include:

- a sensitive area listed in Schedule H of the OWMS Regulation (includes Rock Lake and Pelican Lake areas, as an example);
- the Red River Corridor Designated Area;
- a Provincial Park;
- a Crown land cottage subdivision; or
- land classified as soil class 6 or 7 or unimproved organic soil.

Regulatory requirements that must be met include all provisions of Schedule E of the Regulation, Standards for Sewage Ejectors. This includes requirements for the location and operation of an ejector. As an example, all wastewater effluent must be contained within the boundaries of the property onto which it is ejected, and minimum setback distances must be met (such as 200 feet from a water course or property boundary).

What do I have to do to decommission my ejector?

A guideline with specific decommissioning requirements is available on the Manitoba Conservation website.

Will repairs of existing systems be allowed?

Yes, repair of an existing sewage ejector would be allowed. Replacement of a system would not be allowed.

Will variances be given for those just under 10 acres?

Yes, there will be some flexibility with respect to the minimum lot size on a case-by-case basis. The property must be of sufficient size to ensure the protection of human health and the environment and all other regulatory requirements must be met.

Will there be any financial support for those who are now required to remove ejector systems?

Yes, the province is developing a low-interest loan program to assist those installing a

new septic field following phase-out of an existing sewage ejector.

What is the requirement to get an inspection and how long will it take?

A person wishing to retain an existing sewage ejector must, prior to transfer or subdivision, submit an application to Manitoba Conservation and pay a fee of \$150 (the same fee formerly charged to install an ejector). Review of the application by the Department includes an inspection of the property by an Environment Officer to confirm compliance with the Regulation. The inspection and processing of the application should occur within ten working days of receipt of a complete application.

What about those individuals who did work between October and now?

The proposed regulatory changes would not affect any work undertaken by individuals in response to the original amendments from October 2009.

Is there an ability for the vendor to eliminate their liability when they sell their property and decommissioning hasn't been done?

Yes, a vendor and purchaser may jointly apply to shift the responsibility for phase-out from the vendor to the purchaser.

For more information, please contact an Environment Officer at your local Manitoba Conservation office or go to the Manitoba Conservation website for information.