NORTHBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH
RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR SUBSURFACE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

I. Deep Hole and Percolation Tests

1. Testing may be conducted year round. However, if the Board determines that soil or ground water conditions may impair the accuracy or reliability of a test, it may establish test period restrictions.

II Plans and Design Requirements

1. Applications for soil testing, plan review, and disposal construction permits must be filled out in full, signed and submitted with proper fee.
2. One set of plans must be submitted for review.
3. Plan revisions will be considered upon receipt of revision fee and written statement of revision on revised plan. One set of the revised plans will be required.
4. All the components of the Subsurface Sewage Disposal System, including the Soil Absorption System (SAS), must be on the lot served.
5. The SAS shall be set back 100 feet from all wetlands.
6. The septic system designer will not be permitted to install any system which he/she designed.
7. The expansion area may be placed between the primary area and reserve if no other options are available for the site.
   A.) Systems that have a SAS, either primary or reserve, shall not be located more than 200 feet from the owner's dwelling, unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Health. In determining this allowance, the following will be considered:

   1.) SAS should be in daily sight of the homeowner
   2.) Proximity to the property lines – 100' minimum setback for SAS
   3.) Accessibility for maintenance and repair
   4.) Protection from frost damage
   5.) Alternative locations
   6.) Consultation with Conservation Commission if SAS or any of its components requires a wetlands crossing or impacts a wetland resource area.

   B.) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a system repair.

8. All components of the sewage system shall be accessible from the lot being served for the purpose of maintenance and repair excluding those lots accessed by common driveways.
9. No portion of the SAS shall be further than 25 feet from a test hole.
10. No septic system shall be located less than 10 feet away from the site of a failed percolation test or an outcrop of ledge, unless you have proven suitable soils within 25 feet (4 tests for primary, 4 tests for reserve) or at the discretion of the Board of Health Agent.

11. Testing and fees shall be in accordance with the approved fee schedule of the Board of Health. Additional fees will be required for lots with slower percolation rates (30-60 minutes per inch) to accommodate the time associated with testing .
12. Septic tanks shall be minimum of 1500 gallons and shall have two compartments.
13. For new construction the SAS shall be set back 25 feet from all property lines. For repairs a 10 foot minimum setback to property lines shall be provided.

II. License and Installation

1. To obtain an installer's license in Northborough an installer must provide at least two letters of reference. A license first issued shall be considered provisional until system inspections have occurred and as-built plans have been received and compliance with approved plans has been verified.
2. A Disposal Construction Permit must be obtained at least seven (7) days prior to the installation of the system.
3. The Board of Health agent must be notified at least five (5) days prior to the start of installation.
4. Throughout the installation of the system the installer shall have available and on site a copy of the disposal system construction permit and the approved septic system plans.
5. During the installation of the system, the Board of Health or its agent will at a minimum inspect the septic tank, excavation, fill material, stone, leach lines, distribution box, pump chamber, pumps and the final grading. No work shall continue until each of these has been inspected and approved.
6. Final fill and grade must be shown on a designer/engineer as-built plan.
7. The engineer who certifies the as-built plan must be the design engineer.

These regulations were first effective August 11, 2005.
AMENDED: 2-8, 2011

Glenn French
Chairman

Dilip Jain, Member

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Member

Dated:
Board of Health
Northborough, Massachusetts
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