

WATER POLLUTION

Adopted November 1, 1954--see Volume 5, pages 263-266.

"An ordinance to prevent the pollution of water, to protect health and to regulate the disposal of human wastes and excrements in the County of James City, Virginia, prescribing certain types and location of sanitary closets or privies, and size, drainage field, and location of septic tanks, and for controlling the construction of sewer systems and disposal plants, and providing a punishment for failure to comply with said ordinance.

"BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, as follows:

"Section 1. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any house or type of construction used as a human habitation, any warehouse, any public building or other place where human beings congregate or are employed in the County of James City, to rent, occupy, or lease the same for occupancy by any person, firm, or corporation to occupy the same, unless and until the said house, building, or structure where a human is living or is to live has been supplied or equipped with a sanitary closet or privy for the catchment or receiving of human discharges, as will comply with the requirements hereinafter set forth:

"Section 2. A sanitary privy is one built, re-built, or constructed in such a manner that it will meet with the

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(Section 2, cont.)

following requirements:

- (a) No privy shall be built, reconstructed, or allowed to be used for the disposal of human excrement which could endanger a source of human water supply.
- (b) The excreta disposed therein shall not be allowed to fall upon the surface of the ground but in some vault or receptacle provided.
- (c) The contents of such vault or receptacle shall not be accessible to flies, fowl, or animals at any time.
- (d) The seat box of said privy shall be constructed of metal, concrete, or sound seasoned tongue-and grooved lumber, all joints being made tight.
- (e) The seat box shall be provided with a top or cover, closely fitting.
- (f) Each seat shall be provided with a self-closing, hinged lid, fastened with two hinges, and so arranged as to render said seat box fly proof.
- (g) Proper ventilation shall be provided by a suitable placed ventilator or flue, covered with 16 mesh copper wire screen.

"Section 3. Any person, firm, or corporation shall, before starting any new subdivision, development, or any subdivision in the process of developing, shall furnish in triplicate, plans and specifications, of the sewer system or

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(Section 3, cont.)

type of sewerage disposal to be used in the locality of human habitation. These plans and specifications must be approved by the Health Officer or his Representative, and the County Health Officer or the Sanitation Officer thereof, each shall be deemed to be the representative of said department for all purposes of this ordinance.

"Section 4. Any one of the following types of sanitary privies may be installed: (a) the standard pit type; (b) the concrete slab type.

"A satisfactory flush type of water closet may be used if connected with an approved sewer system or an approved septic tank system, provided this meets the approval of the Health Officer or his Representative.

"Section 5. All sanitary privies shall be kept in clean condition at all times, and so used that all excreta disposed therein will fall into the vault or receptacle provided for that purpose. No vault or receptacle shall be permitted to become filled or overflowing. Where the owner of any property has provided a proper privy it shall be the duty of the tenant to provide proper care and maintain it in a sanitary manner. This provision shall not apply to normal fair wear.

"Section 6. Every house used as a human habitation, every warehouse, every public building or other public

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(Section 6, cont.)

building where human beings congregate or are employed, in the County of James City, if equipped with a satisfactory flush water closet, shall not be allowed to discharge on the ground or into streams, or body of water, ditches, or creeks, but shall be provided by the owner with an approved septic tank or connected to approved sewer system. In the future, cess pools will not be permitted in the County of James City.

"Section 7. It shall be unlawful for anyone to install a septic tank in James City County without first obtaining a permit from a representative of the County Health Department. No such permit shall be issued unless an inexpensive, detailed sketch in duplicate on forms to be prescribed by said department, showing the exact location in feet and inches of such septic tank, and its relation to the adjacent lot boundaries, local water supply, and existing or projected buildings. A representative of the said Department shall decide the capacity of the septic tank, and the number of feet of subsoil pipe to be used. The septic tank system shall conform to the following specifications:

a. A minimum size septic tank or 720 gallons. For each person above seven that the building is capable of accomodating, the size of the septic tank shall be increased by 100 gallons.

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(Section 7, cont.)

b. The design of the septic tank shall be rectangle, the length being two to three times the width. The liquid depth shall be minimum of 4 feet with a minimum of 1 foot of air space.

c. The inlet and outlet fittings shall be cast iron tees. The outlet tee extending 18 inches to 24 inches below the flow line.

d. The septic tank may be made of concrete, a minimum of 4 inches thick; concrete block, cinder block or brick. Where prefabricated septic tanks are used 2 1/2 inch thick concrete side walls and bottom will be accepted, provided the concrete is reinforced.

e. The distribution box shall have sufficient outlets to provide one for each separate drain line. The box shall be set to provide equal flow of liquid from each outlet.

f. A minimum of 250 feet of drain tile shall be provided in three or more equal lines. For each person above five that the building is capable of housing, 50 feet of drain tile shall be added. Where waste from garbage disposal units, automatic washing machines or other appliances that require the use of an extra amount of water, the size of the septic tank and amount of drain tile shall be increased by 33 per cent from each appliance. Where unfavorable soil exists, the number of feet of drain tile shall be determined by pucolation test.

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g. The drain tile line shall consist of one foot lengths of 4 inch tile laid in ditches of at least 18 inches of width. The depth of the ditch may be from 18 inches to 24 inches. The tile shall be laid on a grade board with a grade of approximately one inch in 25 feet of length.

h. At least 6 inches of filter material below the tile shall be used and the tile covered with at least 2 inches of filter material.

i. The filter material may be either gravel, crushed stone or slag, the size being 1/4 inch to 3 inches in diameter.

j. The tile shall be laid with approximately 1/4 inch space between one foot joint. This space shall be covered with tar paper of at least 60 pounds in weight.

k. Where unusual soil conditions exist or the quantity of water to be disposed of make the use of sub surface disposal system impractical or impossible, a sewage disposal system of special design will be used.

"Section 8. Septic tanks shall be installed under the supervision of a representative of the County Health Department. The septic tanks shall be inspected and approved by a representative of the County Health Department before they are permitted to be covered.

## WATER POLLUTION (CONT.)

"Section 9. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to neglect, fail, or refuse to comply with the provisions of this ordinance.

"Section 10. Any person, firm, or corporation who violates any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined the sum of not exceeding \$50.00, and each week of failure or refusal to comply with the provisions shall be deemed a separate offense and he shall be fined an additional sum of not exceeding \$50.00, for each week of failure or refusal to comply with the provisions of this ordinance.

"Section 11. That all ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

"This ordinance shall become effective December 6, 1954."  
Adopted November 1, 1954--see Volume 5, pages 263-266.

SEPTIC TANK CLEANERS--see page 27 of this Code.