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# ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet

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## Septage Hauling in New Hampshire

### What is septage?

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Septage Management Rules, Env-Wq 1600, defines septage as: “material removed from septic tanks, cesspools, holding tanks, or other sewage treatment storage units, excluding sewage sludge from public treatment works and industrial waste and any other sludge.” Septage includes solids and other material removed from septage lagoons, waste from portable toilets and Type III marine sanitation devices, and grease trap waste that has been co-mingled with wastewater. Septage does not include exceptional quality (EQ) solids or EQ filtrate.

### What is required to haul septage?

Any person wishing to haul septage generated, processed, transferred, stored, used or disposed of in New Hampshire must first apply for a septage hauler permit through the NHDES Wastewater Engineering Bureau. One permit is required for *each proposed tank* to remove and transport septage.

All tanks shall be inspected by the permitted hauler prior to transport on public roads to ensure that septage will not leak, spill, or run out of the tank or hoses; and all vehicles used to transport the tanks shall be equipped, at all times, with spill control or absorbent materials and disinfectant materials sufficient to treat a 25-gallon spill.

### What is the permit process?

Applications are reviewed for completeness and adherence with the Administrative Rules Env-Wq 1600. All necessary signatures, fees and attachments must accompany applications submitted to NHDES.

Any hauler who has been issued a permit shall:

- Display the hauler’s name, principal place of business, and telephone number on both sides of the vehicle or tank used to transport septage, in permanent and legible lettering at least 3 inches high.
- Maintain a copy of the specific vehicle permit in the vehicle and display the permit plate mounted according to Env-Wq 1605.07(d).
- Maintain all tanks and hoses used to pump and transport septage so as not to create unreasonable malodors or a public health hazard.

Septage hauler permits have a maximum timeframe of two years and expire on January 31 of odd-numbered years. Persons wishing to renew a septage hauler permit must submit an application to NHDES at least 15 days prior to expiration of the permit.

## What are permit applicants required to submit?

1. *General Applicant Information.* This includes the name, mailing address and daytime telephone number of the applicant and owner (if an individual); the name, address and telephone number of the applicant's business and contact person; and any telephone numbers to be used in case of emergency.
2. *Vehicle Information.* This includes the vehicle identification number (VIN); the license plate number for each vehicle that will be used to transport septage; the size of each individual tank in gallons and the tank identification number(s) if applicable. All tanks used to transport septage shall have been inspected by the department within the previous two years and must be in compliance with Env-Wq 1605.08.
3. *List of Disposal Sites.* The location of each septage site, septage facility and wastewater treatment facility to which septage will be taken to for disposal and an owner or operator's signature granting authorization for each listed disposal septage site, septage facility, and wastewater treatment facility.
4. *Applicant Signature.* This certifies that
  - All vehicles and tanks proposed to transport septage have met all federal and state motor vehicle requirements for septage transportation;
  - The applicant assumes responsibility for ensuring that all persons who will be transporting septage with the applicant's vehicle(s) are familiar with Env-Wq 1600 (NHDES' Septage Management Rules); and
  - The applicant has not been convicted of a misdemeanor under any statute administered by the department within five years prior to the date of application or of a felony in any state or federal court during the ten years prior to the date of application.

## How can I obtain additional information?

Additional information related to Septage and Sludge can be found at [NHDES Wastewater Engineering Residuals Management](#) page. Including the [The Septage Management Rules, Env-Wq 1600](#) and the [Septage Hauler Application Form](#).