

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM APPLICATION

Maine Department of Human Services
 Division of Health Engineering, Station 10
 (207) 287-5672 FAX (207) 287-4172

>> Caution: Permit Required -- Attach In Space Below <<

PROPERTY LOCATION

Town, Plantation: Augusta

Street or Road: Leavitt Rd.

Subdivision, Lot #

AUGUSTA Date Permit Issued: 7/17/02 4917 TOWN 5084

David P. Rocque Local Plumbing Inspector Signature

L.P.I. # 850 Double Fee Charged

OWNER/APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name (last, first, MI): HARMON IVES T. Owner Applicant

Mailing Address of: RR#12, Box 1464

Owner Applicant Leavitt Rd. Augusta, Me.

Daytime Tel. #: 622-3229 04330-9670

Municipal Tax Map # 11 Lot # 73A

Owner or Applicant Statement

I state that the information submitted is correct to the best of my knowledge and understand that any falsification is reason for the Department and/or Local Plumbing Inspector to deny a Permit.

Jess J. Harmon 7/27/02
 Signature of Owner or Applicant Date

Caution: Inspections Required

I have inspected the installation authorized above and found it to be in compliance with the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules Application.

Local Plumbing Inspector Signature: _____ (1st) Date Approved _____
 _____ (2nd) Date Approved _____

PERMIT INFORMATION

TYPE OF APPLICATION

1. First Time System

2. Replacement System
 Replaced: stone Bed
 Installed: 1975

3. Expanded System
 a. One-time exempted
 b. Non-exempted

4. Experimental System

5. Seasonal Conversion

THIS APPLICATION REQUIRES

1. No Rule Variance

2. First Time System Variance
 a. Local Plumbing Inspector Approval
 b. State & Local Plumbing Inspector Approval

3. Replacement System Variance
 a. Local Plumbing Inspector Approval
 b. State & Local Plumbing Inspector Approval

4. Minimum Lot Size Variance

5. Seasonal Conversion Approval

DISPOSAL SYSTEM COMPONENT(S)

1. Complete Non-engineered System (May use existing tank)

2. Primitive System (graywater & alt toilet)

3. Alternative Toilet, specify: _____

4. Non-Engineered Treatment Tank (only)

5. Holding Tank, _____ gallons

6. Non-engineered Disposal Field (only)

7. Separated Laundry System

8. Complete Engineered System (2000 gpd or more)

9. Engineered Treatment Tank (only)

10. Engineered Disposal Field (only)

11. Pre-treatment, specify: _____

12. Miscellaneous components

SIZE OF PROPERTY

1.25 acres sq. ft. acres

SHORELAND ZONING

Yes No

DISPOSAL SYSTEM TO SERVE

1. Single Family Dwelling Unit, No. of Bedrooms: 3

2. Multiple Family Dwelling, No. of Units: _____

3. Other: _____ SPECIFY _____

TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY

1. Drilled Well 2. Dug Well 3. Private

4. Public 5. Other: _____

DESIGN DETAILS (SYSTEM LAYOUT SHOWN ON PAGE 3)

TREATMENT TANK

1. Concrete May USE Existing
 a. Regular USE Existing
 b. Low Profile

2. Plastic

3. Other: _____

CAPACITY 1000 gallons

DISPOSAL FIELD TYPE & SIZE

1. Stone Bed 2. Stone Trench

3. Proprietary Device
 a. Cluster array c. Linear
 b. Regular load d. H-20 load

4. Other: _____

SIZE 1000 sq. ft. lin. ft.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL UNIT

1. No 3. Maybe

2. Yes >> Specify one below:
 a. Multi-compartment Tank
 b. Tanks in Series
 c. Increase in Tank Capacity
 d. Filter on Tank Outlet

DESIGN FLOW

270 gallons per day
 BASED ON:
 1. Table 501.1 (dwelling unit(s))
 2. Table 501.2 (other facilities)

SHOW CALCULATIONS -- for other facilities --

SOIL DATA & DESIGN CLASS

PROFILE CONDITION DESIGN 3 1 C 1 1

at Observation Hole # 2

Depth 26" Elevation -51"
 OF MOST LIMITING SOIL FACTOR

DISPOSAL FIELD SIZING

1. Small -- 2.0 sq. ft./gpd

2. Medium -- 2.6 sq. ft./gpd

3. Medium-Large -- 3.3 sq. ft./gpd

4. Large -- 4.1 sq. ft./gpd

5. Extra Large -- 5.0 sq. ft./gpd

PUMPING

1. Not Required

2. May Be Required

3. Required >> Specify only for engineered or experimental systems:
 DOSE: _____ gallons

3. Section 503.0 (meter readings)
 ATTACH WATER-METER DATA

SITE EVALUATOR STATEMENT

I certify that on 7/27/02 (date) I completed a site evaluation on this property and state that the data reported are accurate and that the proposed system is in compliance with the State of Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules (10-144A CMR 241).

David P. Rocque
 Site Evaluator Signature

154
 SE #

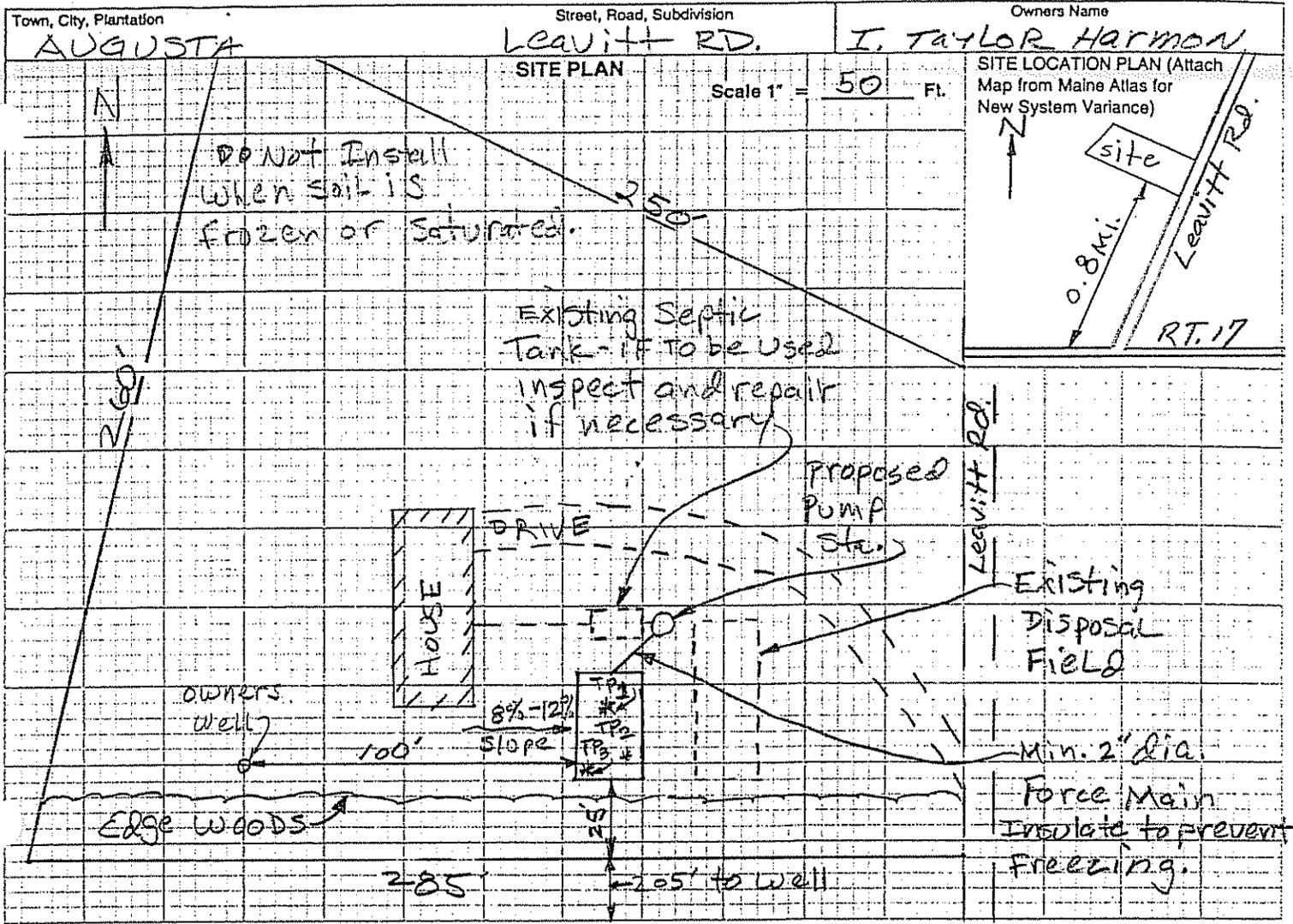
7/27/02
 Date

David P. Rocque
 Site Evaluator Name Printed

622-7487
 Telephone #

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL SYSTEM APPLICATION

Department of Human Services
Division of Health Engineering



SOIL DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATION (Location of Observation Holes Shown Above)

Observation Hole TP 1 Test Pit Boring
SOD " Depth of Organic Horizon Above Mineral Soil

DEPTH BELOW MINERAL SOIL SURFACE (Inches)	Texture	Consistency	Color	Mottling
0	Gravelly		Dark	NONE
6	fine		Brown	observed
10	Sandy Loam	Friable		
15	Fill			
20	gravelly	somewhat	Dark yellow	
25	Fine	Compacted	Brown	
30	Sandy Loam		olive brown	

Soil Profile: 3
Classification: C
Slope: 8%
Limiting Factor: 20
 Ground Water
 Restrictive Layer
 Bedrock

Observation Hole TP 2+3 Test Pit Boring
SOD " Depth of Organic Horizon Above Mineral Soil

DEPTH BELOW MINERAL SOIL SURFACE (Inches)	Texture	Consistency	Color	Mottling
0	Gravelly		Dark	
6	fine		Brown	NONE
10	Sandy Loam	Friable	Dark yellow	observed
15	Loam		yellow	
20			Brown	
25				
30				
35				
40				
45				
50				

Soil Profile: 3
Classification: C
Slope: 11%
Limiting Factor: 27
 Ground Water
 Restrictive Layer
 Bedrock

TP 2
TP 3
Firm
TP 2 Firm at 40"

David P. Roque
Site Evaluator Signature

154
SE#

7/27/02
Date

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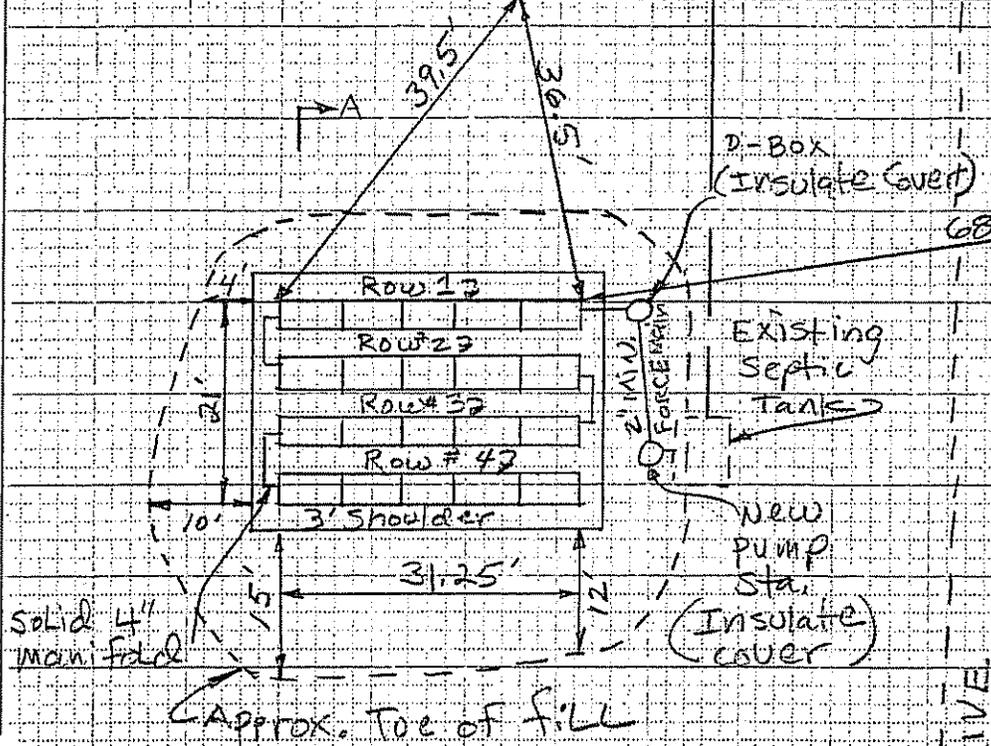
Town, City, Plantation
AUGUSTA

Street, Road, Subdivision
Leavitt Rd.

Owner or Applicant Name
I. Taylor Harmon

SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL PLAN

Scale: 1" = 20 ft.



ERP = flagged
Nail in 18"
w. pine 47"
above gd.

NOTES: If owner uses
new septic tank, it must
be min. 8' from House.
If existing tank is used,
check condition and
repair if necessary.

Enter D-Box from beneath
and insulate cover to
prevent freezing.

Insulate force main and
drill hole in check
valve to drain between
pump cycles.

Insulate pump sta.
cover to prevent
freezing.

Disposal field to be 20 high capacity plastic
chambers in 4 rows (5 units per row)
connected in serial distribution.

BACKFILL REQUIREMENTS

Depth of Backfill (upslope) 12-24"
Depth of Backfill (downslope) 24-27"
DEPTHS AT CROSS-SECTION (shown below)

CONSTRUCTION ELEVATIONS

Finished Grade Elevation See below
Top of Distribution Pipe or Proprietary Device
Bottom of Disposal Field

ELEVATION REFERENCE POINT

Location & Description: Flagged Nail in
18" w. pine 47" above gd.
Reference Elevation is: 0.0" or

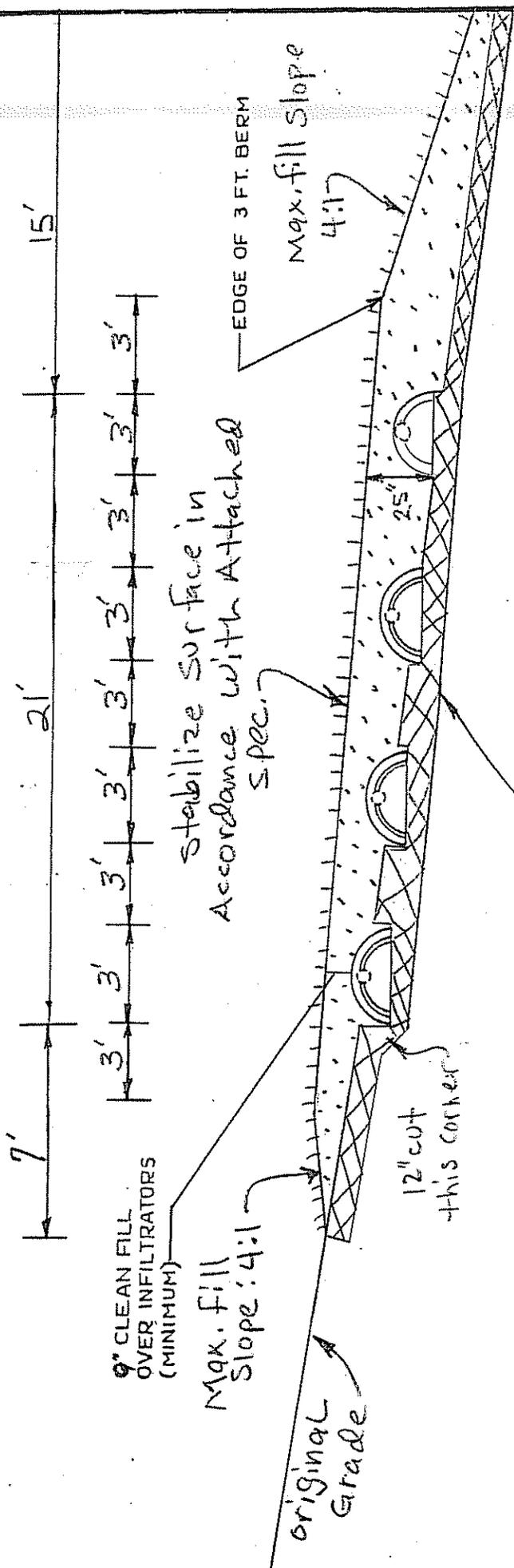
DISPOSAL FIELD CROSS-SECTION

Scales:
Vertical: 1" = _____ ft.
Horizontal: 1" = _____ ft.

Row #	Bottom Trench	Top chambers	Finished grade
1	-37"	-21"	-12"
2	-42"	-26"	-17"
3	-47"	-31"	-22"
4	-52"	-36"	-27"

David P. Roque 154 7/27/02

INFILTRATOR CROSS SECTION 7-8%



Transition Horizon: Remove sod then rototill min. 6" of gravelly coarse sand into exposed soil surface beneath of disposal field and fill extension area.

NOTES:

1. REMOVE VEGETATION AND SCARIFY ORIGINAL SOIL UNDER INFILTRATORS AND FILL EXTENSION AREAS.
2. BOTTOM OF INFILTRATORS TO BE LEVEL WITH A MAXIMUM GRADE TOLERANCE OF 1" PER 100'.
3. PROVIDE FOR SURFACE DRAINAGE AWAY FROM INFILTRATOR AREA.
4. FINISHED GRADE SHALL BE SEEDED AND MULCHED TO PREVENT EROSION.

ORIGINAL GRADE 8-11% gravelly
 FILL UNDER INFILTRATORS TO BE coarse sand texture.
 FILL AROUND INFILTRATORS TO BE coarse sand texture.
 Gravelly Coarse Sand: no more than 4% fines, 15%-30% gravel

SITE EVALUATOR: David P. Rocque		NUMBER OF INFILTRATORS:	20	PERCENT SLOPE:	8-11
OWNER: I. Taylor Harmon		ELEVATIONS:			
LOCATION: Leavitt Road		REFERENCE PT.	0"	BOTTOM TRENCH#1	-37"
DATE: 7/27/02	SCALE: 1 INCH = 5 FEET	BOTTOM TRENCH#2	-42"	BOTTOM TRENCH#3	-47"

Bottom Trench #4 - 52"

SEPTIC SYSTEM USER NOTES

March, 1999

1. It is the homeowners responsibility to assure the proper soil stabilization of all areas disturbed during the septic system installation, particularly the disposal field. Failure to do so not only jeopardizes the proper function of the disposal system, but muddy runoff water from the improperly stabilized soils can become a significant source of pollution. Once disturbed soil areas have been seeded, limed, fertilized and mulched by the contractor, make sure they are watered so that they are moist enough to support the germination and establishment of vegetation. Don't chain dogs that might dig holes or install swing sets which will be heavily used by children on disposal fields. Once stabilized, light, limited activity is o.k. Avoid uses which will kill vegetation and create bare soils.

2. The use of a garbage grinder with a septic system is not recommended. Studies show that homes with garbage grinders average 30 percent more solids and grease generation than homes without garbage grinders. The Subsurface Waste Water Disposal Rules require that additional septic tank capacity, tanks installed in series or a septic tank outlet filter be installed if a garbage grinder is used. You should also have your septic tank pumped more often because of the increased generation of solids and greases which will cause your septic tank fill up quicker. If your system is not designed to accommodate a garbage grinder and you decide to have one installed, you should have a filter installed in your septic tank, at a minimum, and use the grinder sparingly. Composting is the preferred option for disposing of your garbage type wastes.

3. It is recommended that the homeowner install low volume toilets (1.6 gallons per flush or less) and other flow reducing fixtures such as low volume shower heads and faucets to minimize water use. A reduction in water use will usually result in extended life of your septic system, all other things being equal.

4. It is the homeowner's (septic system owner's) responsibility to limit water usage and wastewater generation so that the septic system design capacity (design flow on the septic system form) is not exceeded on any day. Activities which generate large amounts of wastewater, such as laundries, should be spread out over several days rather than doing a number of them on any particular day (typically Saturday for many working couples). Excessive use of a septic system on any one day can cause the system to fail even though your use, averaged out over a week or month, is below design volume. Your system will be stressed because more water will be generated than the soil can absorb and more solid particles will leave the septic tank than normal (systems are designed so that it takes about 48-72 hours for water to pass through a septic tank from the time it enters the tank. The faster water moves through your tank the less settling time there is and higher velocities of water can carry larger particles of solid matter. Under normal circumstances, a few particles leave the tank and enter the disposal field. eventually resulting plugged soil pores but the process can be greatly accelerated if too much water is used).

5. Do not connect floor or roof drains to a septic system. Your system is not designed to handle this water and it will likely cause premature failure.
6. Do not dispose of backwash from water softeners or water treatment devices in your septic system. Large amounts of water can be generated from these devices which can overload a septic system. In addition, chemicals used in these devices may be harmful to the biologic organisms which are important to the proper functioning of your system. It has been recently discovered that the iron removed from water by backflow devices can precipitate out in the sandy soil around your disposal field causing it to become very hard and cemented. This can cause your disposal field to become sealed requiring expensive repair or replacement.
7. Do not use powdered soaps or detergents as they contain a significant amount of fillers and emulsifiers which are detrimental to your septic system. Fillers can carry over to your disposal field and result in plugging up the soil pores. Emulsifiers can result in preventing greases and fats from coagulating and rising to the top of your septic tank (they then will stay in suspension and move out into the disposal field where they will plug up the soil pores). This is also true for very strong liquid soaps which should be avoided. Use only as strong a detergent as is necessary and only in the amounts needed (soft water does not require the same amount or strength detergent as hard water does). You want the grease to harden and rise to the top of the septic tank and not carry out into the disposal field.
8. Do not dispose of any hazardous or toxic substances in a septic system such as paint thinner, paints, varnishes, photographic solutions, pesticides, insecticides, organic solvents, degreasers or drain openers. Septic systems depend on living organisms to function properly. Toxic or hazardous substances can, in effect, "kill" the system and are a threat to pollute surface and/or groundwaters. They are also illegal to dispose of in this manner. Instead of using a commercial degreaser or drain opener, use one of the following:
 - A. A plunger or mechanical snake.
 - B. Pour 1 handful of baking soda and 1/2 cup of white vinegar down the drain pipe and cover tightly for one minute. Repeat as necessary; or
 - C. Pour 1/2 cup of salt and 1/2 cup of baking soda down the drain followed by 6 cups of boiling water. Let sit for several hours or overnight, then flush with water.
9. Do not dispose of any inert or non-biodegradable materials in your septic system such as disposable diapers, cat box litter, coffee grounds, cigarette filters, sanitary napkins, facial tissues and wet strength paper towels. They will not decompose and will therefore build up in your septic tank quickly. Some may pass through to your leach field and result in plugging it up. Also, minimize the use of toilet paper (which is a solid material) and use National Sanitation Foundation recommend paper which breaks down quickly.

10. Use a lint screen with your washing machine and maintain it regularly. If lint enters your septic tank it will not break down and may carry over to your drain field where it will plug the soil pores. If enough soil pores become plugged, disposal field failure will result and be very costly to repair. You may also install a filter on the outlet end of the septic tank to trap particulates, including lint fibers.

11. Do not dispose of fats or greases in your septic system (except for normal dish washing) unless your system has been specifically designed to handle them (an external grease trap). It is also recommended that greasy dishes be wiped before being washed to cut down on the amount of grease and fat entering the septic system. Generally, an internal grease trap is inadequate to handle any large amount of greases or fats.

12. Do not add any septic tank additive or cleaner to your septic system to improve its function or prolong its useful operating life (this includes yeast, horse manure and commercial products such as Rid-X). No effective product or material is recognized by State or National authorities and, in fact, many of these products will actually cause your system to fail prematurely. They add large amounts of organisms to your septic tank, which cause accelerated breakdown of solids, turning the sludge into a slurry which can then leave the tank and enter the disposal field, plugging it up. Chemical additives are prohibited for use in Maine.

13. Maintain your septic system by regularly having the septic tank pumped. Some biological breakdown of solids occurs in the septic tank but the rate of accumulation almost always exceeds the rate of biologic breakdown. If your septic tank is not pumped out often enough, solids and greases may build up to the point where there is insufficient storage and retention time for wastewater in the tank. When that happens, more solids leave the tank than are supposed to, resulting in the clogging of your disposal field and premature failure.

I recommend having your septic tank pumped or inspected after one year of use. The pumper or inspector can advise you of how often you need to have the tank pumped based on what he/she finds (typically, a septic tank should be pumped every two to five years). Keep in mind that you will have to adjust your pumping frequency to coincide with changes in the way you use your system. The more a system is used, the more frequently the tank should be pumped (as children grow into teenagers, water consumption typically increases).

When having your septic tank pumped or inspected, have the baffles inspected. It is particularly important to have the outlet baffle inspected as it is responsible for keeping greases and fats from moving to the disposal field. If the baffles are missing or in need of repair, they should be replaced or repaired immediately. Disposal field failure will occur if you don't have properly functioning baffles.

If your septic system is subject to great fluctuations in usage (heavy on weekends or for a few weeks in the summer) or you rent part or all of your dwelling, you may want to consider the use of a filter on the outlet end of your septic tank (if it does not already have one). The filter can help to control the passage of solids from the septic tank to the disposal field when wastewater surges occur or when you do not have direct control over the use of the system.

14. Do not drive over or store heavy materials on any part of your septic system unless it is specifically designed to handle heavy loads. Otherwise, crushed components may result and the system may fail.

15. Divert all surface water away from the septic tank, pump station (if used) and disposal field. If this is not done, the additional water may cause your system to prematurely fail. Roof areas which contribute runoff water to the septic system site should have gutters installed to divert that water to another location.

16. **PLEASE** - If you have any questions about your septic system or how to use it, call the site evaluator who designed it and ask for advice. You can also call your local plumbing inspector or the state agency responsible for regulating septic systems, the Plumbing Program in the Division of Health Engineering, at 287-5672.

STABILIZATION OF DISTURBED SOIL AREAS BY PERMANENT SEEDINGS OF GRASS

Maine Soil and Water Conservation Commission

April 1990 . . .

The following steps are presented as a guide for protecting bare soil areas that do not have severe limitations from erosion and sedimentation by establishing permanent seedings of grass. This does not imply that grass is the only or the best method of stabilizing disturbed soil areas (other vegetative and non-vegetative measures may be equally or, in some cases, more effective) but it is the most commonly used and is generally quite effective. For sites that have severe limitations, such as very poorly drained soil areas or very steep slopes, you should contact an expert in this field. Your local Soil and Water Conservation District may be of help.

1. Shape all disturbed areas which are to be revegetated to final design grade, including installation of all measures to provide surface and subsurface drainage and needed erosion and sediment control measures.
2. On those sites where the exposed and underlying soil material will not support vegetation apply a minimum of 4-6 inches of topsoil as part of construction.
 - A. Topsoil should be friable loamy material and should be free of debris, trash, stumps, rocks, roots, noxious weeds, etc. Topsoil material may be created by mixing compost with subsoils which would not otherwise support vegetation.
 - B. The surface of areas to be topsoiled should be loosened to a depth of two inches and the topsoil mixed within this depth to insure bonding of the topsoil and subsoil.
 - C. Topsoil should not be placed while in a frozen or muddy condition, when subgrade is excessively wet, or in a condition that may otherwise be detrimental to proper grading or seeding.
 - D. Compact the topsoil enough to insure good contact with underlying soil and smooth to allow seedbed preparation. Avoid compaction that will increase runoff and erosion, deter seed germination or prevent proper anchoring of mulch.

3. Seedbed Preparation:

- A. After construction is completed, the seedbed should be worked or loosened to a depth of 4". For those areas that are not accessible by equipment or where the use of equipment should be avoided (such as subsurface wastewater disposal areas) scarification should be done by hand.
- B. Pack the seedbed, which has been loosened by equipment, prior to seeding to break up large clods and firm the seedbed. The entire prepared seedbed must be soft enough to permit covering the seed and anchoring mulch, yet firm enough to prevent burying seeds too deep. For example, the soil should be firm enough to support the weight of a person without sinking into the soil more than one-half inch.

4. Lime and Fertilizer:

- A. Ideally, soil tests should be used and recommendations for lime and fertilizer followed. However, this is not usually practical due to the length of time it takes to get results.

In lieu of soil tests:

- 1. Apply ground limestone at a rate of three tons per acre, or 140 lbs. per 1000 square foot.
- 2. Apply 900 lbs of 5-10-10 or 10-10-10 (N-P205-k20) fertilizer or equivalent per acre (20 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft.). In sensitive lake watersheds, use low phosphorous fertilizer such as 10-5-10.
- 3. As practical, work lime and fertilizer into the soil, either before or during final seedbed preparation. Raking is a good way of doing this.

5. Plant Selection, Seeding Rates and Seeding Dates:

- A. Select vegetative mixture for the purpose and site conditions. Listed below are a few general purpose examples of permanent grass seed mixes which, when applied to a properly prepared seed bed, will provide for permanent stabilization of disturbed soil areas (temporary stabilization measures may also be necessary, especially in sensitive lake watersheds). There are other equally effective mixes available. However, care should be taken when selecting a mix to avoid high percentages of annual grasses and high percentages of weeds. The user should also be sure to select a mix which is well suited for the intended use; do you want a

lawn or are you simply interested in stabilizing the area? Is the area wet or droughty, shaded or sunny?

LAWN MIXES

1. For well drained and full sun areas:

<u>Species</u>	<u>lbs of seed/acre</u>	<u>lbs of seed/ 1000 sq.ft.</u>
Kentucky Bluegrass	40	0.94
Creeping Red Fescue	40	0.94
Red Top	5	0.12
Total	<u>85</u>	<u>2.0</u>

2. For moist and shaded areas:

<u>Species</u>	<u>lbs of seed/acre</u>	<u>lbs of seed/ 1000 sq. ft.</u>
Creeping Red Fescue	40	0.94
Roughstalk Bluegrass	40	0.94
Redtop	5	0.12
Total	<u>85</u>	<u>2.0</u>

NON-LAWN MIXES

1. For moist to well drained and full sun areas:

<u>Species</u>	<u>lbs of seed/acre</u>	<u>lbs of seed/ 1000 sq. ft.</u>
Tall Fescue (Ky.31)	20	0.50
Creeping Red Fescue	20	0.45
Red Top	02	0.05
	<u>42</u>	<u>1.0</u>

2. For moist to well drained and shaded areas:

Tall Fescue (KY.31)	30	0.70
Creeping Red Fescue	50	1.30
	<u>80</u>	<u>2.0</u>

- B. Seed should be uniformly broadcast over the surface and soil rolled or packed where slope conditions permit. Where rolling or packing is not feasible, the seed should be raked into the top one-quarter inch of soil.

- C. Seed may be applied as dormant seeding if not applied in time to germinate before the first killing frost. If applied as dormant seeding, increase recommended rate 25%.

6. Mulching:

Mulching is an important step in establishing vegetation. Properly applied, mulch will help hold moisture, protect soil from erosion, hold seed in place, keep soil temperature more constant, prevent surface compaction, or crusting, control weeds and prevent birds from eating the seed.

- A. The most commonly used and readily available mulch material is hay or straw. When using this mulch material, care should be taken to avoid using sources which have high amounts of weed seeds. Apply at a rate of 90-100 bales per acre or 2 bales per 1000 sq. feet so that 75%-90% of the surface is lightly covered. Since hay and straw are subject to wind blowing, unless kept moist, anchoring may be necessary. This is especially true for:

1. Areas prone to high velocity winds.
2. Areas which are environmentally sensitive, such as lake watersheds, and
3. Areas which were not seeded in time to establish vegetative cover before the first killing frost and would otherwise be bare until the next growing season. Mulch should cover 100% of the surface for these areas and be at least 2" thick.

Suitable methods of anchoring hay or straw mulch include:

1. Peg and twine - after mulching, divide area into blocks approximately one square yard in size. Drive 4-6 pegs per block to within 2" - 3" of the soil surface. Secure mulch to surface by stretching twine between pegs in a criss-cross pattern on each block. Secure around each peg with two or more turns. Drive pegs flush with soil where mowing is planned.
 2. Staples - use the same procedure as described above in peg and twine to divide area after mulching. Insert 4-6 staples over twine in each block. Twine should form a criss-cross pattern.
 3. Soil - cut hay or straw mulch into soil surface with square edged shovel. Make cuts in contour rows spaced 18" apart.
- B. Jute mats or mulch netting may also be used. It can be purchased in rolls and anchored by stapling.

C. Hydroseeding is another alternative mulch which includes seed, fertilizer and lime in a sprayed-on slurry.

7. Maintenance:

A. While the vegetation is becoming established, it will be necessary to periodically inspect disturbed soil sites and re-stabilize any areas which show evidence of erosion, or where vegetation fails to catch. Areas where heavy mulch applications were used for late fall and winter stabilization will need to be raked so that mulch lightly covers 75% - 90% of the surface, as described in the previous section on mulching. If mulch is too thick, vegetation will have difficulty becoming established.

B. For lawn areas:

1. New seedings should be treated chemically or mowed to control weeds. Mowers should be set to cut no closer than 2" above ground level.
2. To maintain a healthy lawn, soil tests should be periodically taken and recommendations followed. This is particularly important in sensitive watersheds where excess fertilizer may end up in surface water bodies or over sole source aquifers where groundwaters may be impacted. In lieu of soil tests, annual applications of at least 45 pounds of elemental nitrogen (N) per acre or one pound per 1000 sq. feet, 25 pounds of phosphate (P205) per acre or one-half pound per 1000 sq. feet and 25 pounds of potash (K20) per acre or one-half pound per 1000 sq. feet. Ground limestone should be applied periodically to maintain a soil PH of at least 6.0.

For information on how to take soil samples for soil fertility tests, contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District or Cooperative Extension Service or write to:

Maine Soil Testing Service
25 Deering Hall
University of Maine
Orono, Maine 04473