North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Waste Management

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Director

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Secretary

TO: SEPTAGE MANAGEMENT FIRM

FROM: TONY GALLAGHER, ENVIRONMENTAL SUPERVISOR
SOLID WASTE SECTION

DATE: OCTOBER 2013

SUBJECT: YEAR 2014 ANNUAL FEE & FIRM PERMITTING

The N.C. Division of Waste Management operates a Septage Management Program in accordance with G.S. 130A-291. Every septage management firm is required by the General Statutes to obtain a permit to operate prior to starting business and prior to the start of each calendar year.

The N.C. Septage Management Rules, 15 NCAC 13B, were last amended **April 1, 2010.** If you do not have a copy of the rules, please contact our office at (919)707-8285 or you can download a copy of the rules from our website at http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wm/sw/septage . Particular attention should also be paid to **Section .0833** which requires the submission of certain information and the payment of an annual fee to the Department in order to obtain a permit.

Your year **2014 annual fee** should be made payable to the **DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT** and mailed along with the **required properly completed** *"Application to Operate a Septage Management Firm"*. **Should your check be returned for non-payment a fee of $25.00 will be charged. If the check is not adjusted by January 1, 2014, your fee payment will be considered late which will subject you to the 50% late fee.**

Please note that the General Statutes, GS 130A-291.1(e2) provides that a 50% late fee be submitted by the applicant if the annual fee payment and a properly completed application are not submitted by January 1st, 2014.

Everyone must submit a completed Firm Application and Fee. In order to assist you in completing the proper forms we have listed the methods of septage disposal authorized by the rules. **All forms submitted must be originals.**

1) **If your Firm discharges septage at an approved wastewater treatment plant, either at the plant, through use of an assigned manhole, or reintroduces partially treated liquid back into a grease trap, submit the following:**
   a. "*Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm".*
   b. Annual fee payment.
   c. Written authorization on official letterhead or a **notarized** *"Authorization to Discharge at a Wastewater Treatment Facility"*, for each plant used, indicating:
      - Type(s) of septage to be discharged at the facility;
      - Where septage can be discharged at the facility or in the collection system:
      - Geographic area from which septage will be accepted; and
      - The date the authorization will expire.

(OVER)

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2) **If your Firm discharges septage at a permitted Septage Land Application Site and if this Site is permitted <u>to YOU</u>, submit the following:**

a. An *"Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm".*

- On Question 7 (b) you <u>must</u> give the permit number and the expiration date of *your* permitted Septage Land Application Site(s).
- On Question7(c) of the *"Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm"*, you <u>must</u> give the permit number and expiration date for *your* permitted Septage Treatment or Storage Facility.
- If you do not have a Septage Treatment or Storage Facility, you must submit an *"Authorization to Discharge Septage to a Wastewater Treatment Facility*" as an alternative for discharging.

b. Annual fee payment.

3) If your Firm discharges septage at a permitted Septage Land Application Site or a Septage Treatment or Storage Facility that is permitted to <u>SOMEONE ELSE</u>, submit the following.

a. An *"Application for Permit to Operate a Septage Management Firm".*
b. Annual fee payment.
c. An *"Authorization to Discharge Septage at a Septage Land Application Site Permitted to Someone Other Than Yourself".* The person to whom the site is permitted must sign this form. The permit number and expiration date must be shown in question # 7(b).
d. An *"Authorization to Discharge at a Septage Treatment or Storage Facility Permitted to Someone Other Than Yourself"*. This form must be signed by the person to whom the facility is permitted. The permit number and expiration date must be shown in question # 7(c).
e. If you are not authorized to use someone else's Septage Treatment or Storage Facility, then you must submit an *"Authorization to Discharge Septage to a Wastewater Treatment Facility".*

4) If you are no longer operating a Septage Management Firm, please sign and return the enclosed "Notice of Ceased Operation as a Septage Management Firm".

The use of **ANY** Septage Land Application Site or Septage Treatment or Storage Facility for which a permit has not been issued is a violation of 15A NCAC 13B .0835(a) and/or 15A NCAC 13B .0836(a). A violation of these rules could result in the assessment of an administrative penalty of up to $15,000 per day per violation or you may be subject to enforcement actions including penalties, injuction from operation of a solid waste management facility or a solid waste collection service and any such further relief as may be necessary to achieve compliance with the North Carolina Solid Waste Management Act and Rules. If you are interested in obtaining a septage land application site please contact our office and we will be glad to provide the necessary information for you to start this process.

If you do not have an approved disposal method for septage, you will not be permitted as a Septage Management Firm.

If you have further questions or need additional forms, please contact Liz Patterson, Environmental Technician, at (919) 707-8286 or Elizabeth.Patterson@ncdenr.gov . Thank you for your cooperation.

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