

SUMMARY

Shoreland Pollution Control Regulation 1976

The Shoreland Regulations became effective April 1, 1976. They are intended to prevent sewage pollution in recreation areas. Cottages with sewage systems established before April 1, 1976 are not required to change their original sewage systems unless ordered. Cottages constructed after April 1, 1976 must comply with these regulations, as do cottages which are enlarged or extended or their sewage disposal system is changed or modified.

The following are the options a cottage owner may consider when choosing a sewage disposal system depending on certain restrictions:

1. Septic Tank (Sewage holding tank)

- At least 1000 gallon capacity; permit and inspection required
- It must be installed at least 50 feet back from the highest recorded lake level or at least 10 feet above the highest recorded lake level.
- The bottom of the tank must be at least 2 feet above ground water level
- Must receive drainage from all plumbing fixtures
- Be accessible by a service truck
- The tank must be CSA approved for shallow or deep burial, or above ground installation.
- Serve only one property.

2. Privy Vaults (Privy with a sealed vault underneath)

- Vault must be able to accommodate the season's load.
- Vault must be water tight and vented; concrete or fiberglass construction
- Vault bottom must be at least 2 feet above ground water level.
- Situated at least 50 feet back from highest recorded lake water level or be 10 feet above the highest recorded lake water level.
- Be easily accessible by a service truck.
- Minimum size 250 gallons.

3. Pit Privy (Outhouse) *Not allowed in all Provincial Park or if specified through local bylaw*

- Must be 100 feet back from the highest recorded lake water level.
- Must be 50 feet from drilled wells; 100 feet from other wells.
- Situated 25 feet from any occupied building
- Situated 2 feet from property lines
- Bottom of the dug pit must be 5 feet above the ground water level if the soil is clay or 25 feet if the soil is sand.
- Must not receive liquid waste disposal from plumbing fixtures

4. Pail Privy or Marine Toilet (Portable)

- Acceptable when distances from lake water and/or ground water levels cannot be achieved.
- The contents must be deposited in an approved dump-site or sewage system.

5. Seepage Pits

- Only kitchen sink or hand basin water is allowed to drain to a properly constructed covered seepage pit; no other plumbing fixtures may drain to a seepage pit (ie. bathtub, shower, laundry, toilet).
- Are not allowed if a holding tank or privy vault disposal system has been installed on the lot.
- Be at least 100 feet back from the highest recorded lake water level.
- The bottom of the seepage pit must have a ground water isolation of at least 5 feet in clay or 25 feet in sand.
- Situated 50 feet from drilled wells; 100 feet from other wells.

The installation of a sewage holding tank is required to be permitted as does the installation of any plumbing. A permit must be obtained prior to any work and the installation must be inspected before being covered over. In most cases the cottage owner is eligible to receive a permit. Permits and inspections are provided by your District Health Inspector.

For further information regarding permits, technical advice, assessments of shoreline compliance or for copies of the Shoreland Pollution Control Regulations – 1976, please contact the Public Health Inspector in your district at one of the locations below:

Ryan Philipation	752-6310 (Melfort)
Briana MacLean	752-6323 (Melfort)
Michael Hayduk	862-7235 (Nipawin)
Chelsey Chabot	862-7238 (Nipawin)

SEWAGE HOLDING TANKS AND CHILD SAFETY

The Canadian Standards Association has amended its B66 Standard governing prefabricated septic tanks and sewage holding tanks. Some of the changes regarding child safety design features were largely a result of an urging from Saskatchewan Health. All Manufacturers of CSA certified tanks have been notified of these amendments and since 1987 have made the appropriate design changes.

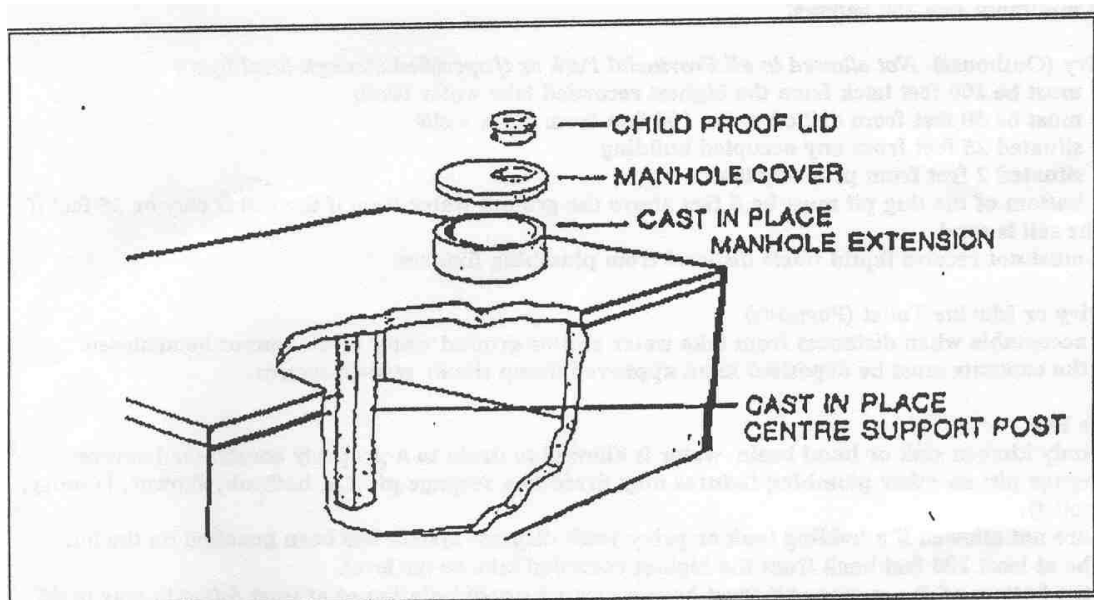
Although Saskatchewan Health is pleased with the direction taken by Canadian Standards Association and industry, there is still concern with some existing tank installation possibly posing a safety hazard to children.

If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions, it may be worthwhile for you to spend a few moments determining whether any hazards exist.

1. Do children, either your own or those of relatives and friends, reside or holiday at the cottage?
2. Have children from neighboring properties ever "stumbled" onto your property?
3. Is your holding tank pumped out on a regular basis necessitating frequent removal of the tank cover?

Here are some helpful hints on how to make your tank safer for children:

- Ensure tank lids are securely fastened immediately after pumping operations.
- If you own a concrete tank, you can purchase access covers with 6-inch pump out holes. The cover, therefore, does not have to be removed during pumping, lessening the risk of it being damaged or misplaced.



- If you own a fiberglass or steel tank, you can attach hinges and a lockable latch to the cover. The liquid waste hauler can be advised of where to obtain the key for pumping and that he should lock the cover after the task is completed.
- As an immediate measure while exploring a more permanent solution, a heavy weight may be placed on the cover.

The above-mentioned hints would also apply to water supply tanks if they are used.