STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID P. LITTELL
COMMISSIONER

April 25, 2007

Mr. Greg Wilfert
Town of Cornish
P.O. Box 391
Cornish, Maine 04020

RE: Permit Compliance System #MEU507878
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application # W-007878-5L-C-R
Final License

Dear Mr. Wilfert:

Enclosed please find a copy of your **final** Maine WDL which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read the license and its attached conditions carefully. You must follow the conditions in the order to satisfy the requirements of law. Any discharge not receiving adequate treatment is in violation of State Law and is subject to enforcement action.

Any interested person aggrieved by a Department determination made pursuant to applicable regulations, may appeal the decision following the procedures described in the attached DEP FACT SHEET entitled "*Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision.*"

The Department would like to make you aware that your monthly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms may not reflect the revisions in this licensing action for several months after license issuance, however, you are required to report applicable test results for parameters required by this licensing action that do not appear on the DMR. Please see the attached April 2003 O&M Newsletter article regarding this matter.

If you have any questions regarding the matter, please feel free to call me at (207) 287-6114 or contact me via email at Robert.D.Stratton@maine.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Stratton
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc./cc: Fred Gallant (MEDEP); Sandy Lao (USEPA);

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769-2094
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

web site: www.maine.gov/dep

DMR Lag

(reprinted from April 2003 O&M Newsletter)

When the Department renews discharge permits, the parameter limits may change or parameters may be added or deleted. In some cases, it is merely the replacement of the federally issued NPDES permit with a state-issued MEPDES permit that results in different limits. When the new permit is finalized, a copy of the permit is passed to our data entry staff for coding into EPA's Permits Compliance System (PCS) database. PCS was developed in the 1970's and is not user-friendly. Entering or changing parameters can take weeks or even months. This can create a lag between the time your new permit becomes effective and the new permit limits appearing on your DMRs. If you are faced with this, it can create three different situations that have to be dealt with in different ways.

1. If the parameter was included on previous DMRs, but only the limit was changed, there will be a space for the data. Please go ahead and enter it. When the changes are made to PCS, the program will have the data and compare it to the new limit.

2. When a parameter is eliminated from monitoring in your new permit, but there is a delay in changing the DMR, you will have a space on the DMR that needs to be filled. For a parameter that has been eliminated, please enter the space on the DMR for that parameter only with "NODI-9" (No Discharge Indicator Code #9). This code means monitoring is conditional or not required this monitoring period.

3. When your new permit includes parameters for which monitoring was not previously required, and coding has not caught up on the DMRs, there will not be any space on the DMR identified for those parameters. In that case, please fill out an extra sheet of paper with the facility name and permit number, along with all of the information normally required for each parameter (parameter code, data, frequency of analysis, sample type, and number of exceedances). Each data point should be identified as monthly average, weekly average, daily max, etc. and the units of measurement such as mg/L or lb/day. Staple the extra sheet to the DMR so that the extra data stays with the DMR form. Our data entry staff cannot enter the data for the new parameters until the PCS coding catches up. When the PCS coding does catch up, our data entry staff will have the data right at hand to do the entry without having to take the extra time to seek it from your inspector or from you.

EPA is planning significant improvements for the PCS system that will be implemented in the next few years. These improvements should allow us to issue modified permits and DMRs concurrently. Until then we appreciate your assistance and patience in this effort.

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE HOUSE STATION 17 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

TOWN OF CORNISH	)	PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT
CORNISH, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, MAINE	)	OF WATERS
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS	)	
SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL	)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
#MEU507878	)	
#W007878-5L-C-R **APPROVAL**	)	**RENEWAL**

Pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A Section 414-A et seq., and applicable regulations, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has considered the application of the TOWN OF CORNISH, with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

The applicant has applied for a renewal of Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W007878-58-B-R / Compliance Tracking System #MEU507878, which was issued on June 26, 2002 and expires on June 26, 2007. The WDL licensed the discharge of 0.007 million gallons per day (MGD) (7,000 gallons per day) of treated sanitary wastewater from a single sub-surface treatment "system" to the groundwater, Class GW-A, in Cornish, Maine.

LICENSE SUMMARY

By this renewal the Department is:

- carrying forward certain operational constraints and use restrictions germane to the successful operation of subsurface treatment systems; and

- eliminating previous requirements for Annual Subsurface System Performance Reports while establishing a requirement for a Subsurface System Performance Report as an exhibit to the facility's WDL renewal application.

CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in the attached Fact Sheet dated March 16, 2007 and revised April 19, 2007, and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following conclusions:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.

2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.

3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, 38 MRSA Section 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:

   (1) Existing water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;

   (2) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;

   (3) The standards of classification of the receiving water body are met or, where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause of contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;

   (4) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification, that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and

   (5) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.

4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment.

ACTION

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of the TOWN OF CORNISH, to discharge 0.007 million gallons per day (7,000 gallons per day) of treated sanitary wastewater to groundwater, Class GW-A, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations including:

1. Standard Conditions of Approval for POTW Waste Discharge Licenses dated July 16, 1996, copy attached.

2. The attached Special Conditions, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

3. The term of the permit is five (5) years from the date of signature.

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 24TH DAY OF April 2007.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: _____

David P. Littell, Commissioner

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of application: March 16, 2007

Date of application acceptance: March 16, 2007

FILED
APR 25 2007
BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROT.
STATE OF MAINE

Date filed with Board of Environmental Protection _____

This Order prepared by Robert D. Stratton, BUREAU OF LAND & WATER QUALITY

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

The operator in responsible charge of the systems must hold a **Grade I,** certificate pursuant to Title 32 M.R.S.A. Chapter 62, Section 4171 et seq. and Department Rules Chapter 531 "Regulations for Wastewater Operator Certification Program". A "system" being defined as, any combination of collection pipes, treatment tanks, distribution devices and disposal fields designed, installed, and operated as a single unit.

The certified operator, or a shift operator or other employee under the supervision of the certified operator, must be available at all times that the facility is in operation to ensure compliance with license conditions, and to respond in times of system failures, threats to public health or any other emergency situations. The certified operator should ensure that person(s) acting under the certified operator's supervisory authority are sufficiently familiar with the treatment systems to carry out these responsibilities.

The Department must approve all proposed contracts for facility operation, by any person other than by a certified operator directly employed by the licensee pursuant to Department Rules Chapter 531 and current Department *Guidelines for Review of Operational Contracts*, within two weeks of a contract operator being retained. Where possible, the licensee and/or contractor shall submit draft agreements for Department review and approval at least 2 months prior to execution.

Any change in operator status must be reported in writing to and approved by the Department's facility compliance inspector assigned to the licensee.

B. AUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

The licensee is authorized to discharge treated sanitary wastewater only in accordance with the terms and conditions of this license and only from the existing subsurface system as designed. Discharge of wastewater from any other source or expected flows in excess of design capacity requires a formal modification of this license.

Also, the collection, treatment or discharge of wastewater from commercial, industrial or residential sources, which has constituents unlike that or is significantly higher strength than that of domestic wastewater is prohibited without formal modification of the license.

C. DISPOSAL OF SEPTAGE WASTE IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

The licensee is prohibited from receiving septage into its wastewater treatment facility. Septage shall mean any waste, refuse, effluent, sludge or other material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, vault privy or similar source which concentrates wastes or to which chemicals have been added.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

D. NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. The effluent shall not contain materials in concentrations or combinations, which would impair the usages designated by the classification of the groundwater.

2. Notwithstanding specific conditions of this license the effluent must not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification, or lower the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.

E. GENERAL OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

1. The licensee shall operate the system consistent with the requirements of the *Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules* (144A CMR 241 authorized under Title 22 MRSA §42) and other pertinent regulations, as well as the limitations of the design.

2. The licensee is responsible for proper operation and maintenance of the subsurface wastewater system in order to facilitate groundwater protection, including the education of system users in the proper use of the system.

3. The Department shall be notified as soon as the licensee becomes aware of any threat to public health, unlicensed discharge of wastewater, sanitary system overflows (SSO's), or any malfunction that threatens the proper operation of the system, and of action taken to repair/correct, and prevent recurrence. Notification shall be made in accordance with the attached Standard Conditions dated 7/16/96 attached to this license.

   A *sanitary sewer overflow* (SSO) is the release of raw sewage from a sanitary collection system prior to reaching the treatment plant or facility (spills out of manholes, into basements, onto municipal property, etc, and into waters of the United States are all considered to be SSO's).

4. All upgrades, replacements or authorized expansions of the treatment systems shall be in accordance with *Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules* and be approved by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

   DEP authorized upgrades, replacements, expansions of systems with a design flow of less than 2000 gallons per day shall be under the direction of a Site Evaluator licensed in Maine. Upgrades, replacements, and authorized expansions of systems with a design flows greater than 2000 gallons per day shall be under the direction of both a licensed Site Evaluator and Professional Engineer.

5. The licensee shall maintain a file on the location of all system components and relevant features. Each component shall be mapped and field located sufficiently to allow adequate inspections and monitoring by both the licensee and the Department. Septic tanks and distribution box covers shall be accessible for inspections and pumping. Risers shall be installed as necessary.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

E. GENERAL OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS (CONT'D)

6. All system components including collection pipes, tanks, distribution boxes, pumps, pumping stations, disposal fields, and manholes shall be identified and referenced by a unique system identifier in all logs and reports.

F. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

It shall be the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that:

1. Roof drains and foundation drains are not connected to the system.

2. Occurrences of excessive inflow and infiltration are corrected immediately.

3. Garbage disposal systems are not connected to the system unless specific measures have been taken to accommodate the increased loading to the system.

4. Backwash from home water softeners are not connected to the system.

5. Ponding of surface water over the disposal field does not occur and all sources of surface water are diverted away from the fields.

6. Driving or parking over any part of the system is prohibited, except in cases where weight-bearing components (H-20) have been installed and approved for use in the design.

7. Covering the disposal field with a hard surface such as concrete or asphalt is prohibited.

8. The field is kept free of woody vegetation and the digging or planting of anything other than grass or other similar herbaceous plants is prohibited.

9. Stockpiling of snow or soil on the disposal field is prohibited.

G. SEPTIC TANKS

1. All septic tanks shall be watertight and tanks must be constructed of materials approved by the Department and in accordance with the *Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules*. Metal septic tanks are prohibited.

2. Inlet and outlet connections of each septic tank or compartment shall be designed to obtain effective retention of scum and sludge. All connections and baffles shall be fastened with and constructed of, or coated with, materials that are resistant to corrosion.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

G. SEPTIC TANKS (CONT'D)

3. Septic tanks and other treatment tanks shall be regularly inspected (as specified in Special Condition I) and maintained to ensure that they are providing best practicable treatment.

4. Tank contents shall be removed whenever the sludge and scum occupies one-third of the tank's liquid capacity or whenever levels approach maximum design capacity.

H. GREASE TRAPS

1. The licensee shall require any commercial or institutional food preparation facility such as a restaurant, cafeteria, or institutional kitchen to install an external grease interceptor in accordance with the *Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules*.

2. Grease interceptors serving year round facilities shall be inspected by the licensee at least three times per year and seasonal facilities shall be inspected at least twice per year to determine the volume of grease present. Tanks shall be cleaned when the volume of grease equals more than 50% of the liquid capacity of the tank or at any level that impairs the proper function of the unit.

I. LICENSEE INSPECTIONS

1. All inspections shall include an evaluation of any repair, upgrades, pumping, operational and/or maintenance needs.

2. The inspection report or log shall include the date of the inspection, the names of the person performing the inspection, and other relevant system observations.

3. System (single operational unit) inspections shall include: quantification of the source and type of sanitary sewage (and whether or not the facility being served is occupied at the time of inspection); and water use records. The form shall contain a general description of the system components and layout.

4. Septic tank inspections shall include: the approximate age, size and condition of the tank; depth and location of the scum layer; depth and location of the sludge layer; solids % of capacity; physical condition of the baffles, inlet and outlet tees; evidence of significant leakage into or out of tank (watertightness); evidence of backup of effluent; and cleaning of the effluent filter (if present).

5. Distribution box and dosing chamber inspections shall include: condition of the box; evidence of solids carryover; leakage into or out of the box (watertightness); the static liquid level in the box; equal distribution of flow (level); evidence of backup; and other pertinent operational characteristics.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

I. LICENSEE INSPECTIONS (CONT'D)

6. Disposal field inspections shall include: any signs of hydraulic failure; condition of the surface vegetation; level of ponding within the chamber and on the disposal area; examination of texture and color or the adjacent soil; physical encroachments into the disposal area; and other sources of hydraulic loading. Evidence of system failure to note may include: sewage surfacing, sewage back-up, lush green growth, slow draining, sewage odors, sogginess or ponding.

7. Where practicable the licensee shall maintain and keep logs that record water level measurements in disposal fields at least once per week. Significant changes in water levels over the previous year will be identified, recorded and reported to the Department.

8. Systems with electrical or mechanical components, such as pumps, timers, control panels and alarms, need to be inspected and serviced according to manufacturer recommendations and in accordance with the facility operations and maintenance manual.

9. Inspections shall be performed by the licensee at least once during the calendar year. Inspections are to be conducted more frequently for problem systems, large systems, or where required by the operations and maintenance manual.

   Systems serving restaurants and other businesses or institutions must be inspected more frequently than residential systems (at least three times per year), due to waste that is generally higher in strength and volume.

J. MAINTENANCE LOGS

Maintenance logs shall be maintained for each system component including pumps, dosing chambers, distribution boxes, septic tanks and absorption fields. At a minimum the log shall include the alphanumeric ID, the date of maintenance, type or maintenance performed, names of persons performing the maintenance, volumes directed to each field and other relevant system observations.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

K. PUMPING STATIONS AND QUANTITY OF FLOW

1. The system shall be operated with a duplex pump system, or stand-by pump(s) should be available on-site (or satisfactory arrangement to obtain) for immediate use in order to prevent sewer overflows.

2. All pumps and controls must be tested and calibrated as recommended by the manufacturer and in accordance with the facility operations and maintenance manual, and repaired and replaced as necessary.

3. There shall be a high-level detection system with an alarm designed to promptly notify responsible persons in the event of a malfunction. The level detection system in the tank shall be set to activate at a level that will leave ample capacity in the pump tank in order to make repairs and or activate the standby pump.

4. Wherever feasible, agreements are to be made with nearby residents, patrolling police officers, and other Town employees to report activated alarms to the licensee as soon as possible.

5. A manual check of the operation of the pump, testing all level controls, switches and alarms shall be performed at least once per month.

6. Pump flows shall be recorded weekly and the average daily usage shall be compared month to month for signs of abnormal flow or overloading of the disposal field(s) in excess of design capacity.

7. Pumping rates shall be verified at least once per year for multi-bed systems or where changes in use are occurring. For single bed systems, pumping rates shall be verified at least once every three years.

L. PUMPING (SOLIDS REMOVAL FROM SEPTIC TANKS, DOSING CHAMBERS, DISTRIBUTION BOXES AND OTHER TREATMENT TANKS)

1. The licensee shall keep a pumping log including the date of pumping, quantity of material removed (solids % of capacity), name and number of licensed contractor, pumping frequency and other relevant observations.

2. Following pumping, the tanks shall be checked for damage at key joints and the inlet and outlet baffles, and repaired promptly.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

M. LOADING OF DISPOSAL FIELDS AND LEACH BED DISCHARGE SCHEDULE

The licensee shall maintain logs of loading (flows) to disposal field(s) and frequency of discharge events to individual leach beds, to assure that the beds are not being loaded in excess of design capacity and that they are being alternated properly. The logs shall be kept on forms approved by the Department (See Attachment "A" of this License) and shall be submitted monthly prior to the fifteenth day of the month following the discharge events.

N. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O & M) PLAN

This facility shall have a current written comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O & M) Plan. The plan shall provide a systematic approach by which the licensee shall at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and the systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the licensee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this license.

By December 31 of each year, or within 90 days of any process changes or minor equipment upgrades, the licensee shall evaluate and modify the O& M Plan including site plan(s) and schematic(s) for the wastewater treatment facility to ensure that it is up-to-date. The O& M Plan shall be kept on-site at all times and made available to the Department personnel upon request.

Within 90 days of completion of new and substantial upgrades of the wastewater treatment facility, the licensee shall submit the updated O&M Plan to their Department inspector for review and comment.

The site plan(s) and schematic(s) should be suitable for reproduction on 11" x 17" paper and shall include but not limited to all manholes, septic tanks and other treatment tanks including holding and polishing tanks, pump stations and disposal fields. Each system component shall be provided with a unique alphanumeric identifier.

O. SUBMITTAL OF SUBSURFACE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORT

As an exhibit to the application for renewal of this license, the licensee shall submit to the Department for review, a report of the treatment system's performance covering the previous five-year period. The report shall include any standard reporting form(s) developed by the Department. (PCS code 01299) The report shall include, but is not necessarily limited to, the following topics:

- A summary of the results of all inspections.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

O. SUBMITTAL OF SUBSURFACE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORT (CONT'D)

- A summary of all significant maintenance activities and repairs, and other specific action(s) taken to ensure the proper functioning of the systems.

- A listing of all additions and deletions to the system or individual system components. The summary shall include the date of action and other relevant information such as alphanumeric identifiers, component size and type.

- A summary of pumping activity for all septic tanks, dosing chambers, distribution boxes and other treatment tanks on the system. All system tanks shall be included for purposes of tracking solids accumulations and necessary pumping frequencies.

  The summary shall include: alphanumeric ID, tank size, solids content of tank prior to pumping (%), the previous pumping date, the date of the activity, name and number of licensed contractor, condition of the tanks at the time of pumping, average pumping frequency, next scheduled pumping date, and other relevant observations.

- Where applicable, a listing of beds in service and dousing rates (discharge schedule) for the previous five-year period.

- Where applicable, a summary of disposal field water levels logs for the previous calendar year and a trend analysis for the previous five-year period.

- Where applicable, a month to month comparison of the average daily pump flow (loading) rates for the previous calendar year and a trend analysis for the previous five-year period.

- Relevant performance observations, proposed corrective actions and schedule for improvements.

- A summary of any changes made to the O & M plan during the calendar year as the result of the above actions.

- The report shall be dated and signed by the certified treatment system operator in responsible charge (including operator grade and evidence of current status).

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

P. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Any submittals required or monitoring requirements shall be reported in accordance with the attached Standard Conditions and directed to the attention of the assigned Facility Inspector at:

Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Land and Water Quality
312 Canco Road
Portland, ME 04103

Q. REOPENING OF LICENSE MODIFICATIONS

Upon evaluation of any required test results, results of inspections and/or reporting required by the Special Conditions of this licensing action, additional site specific or any other pertinent information or test results obtained during the term of this license, the Department may, at anytime and with notice to the licensee, modify this license to require additional monitoring, inspections and/or reporting based on the new information.

ATTACHMENT A

MONTHLY OPERATIONS LOG

LICENSE
Attachment A
W007878-5L-C-R

MONTHLY OPERATIONS LOG

MUNICIPAL SUBSURFACE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

YEAR _____ Facility Name _____ D.E.P. Lic. No._____

Disposal Area's Name, (and/or) Number, (and/or) Location _____

Number of Leachfields in this particular disposal area _____ and number being rested this month_____

Design Capacity of each Leachfield in this particular disposal area (Gal/Day) _____

Number of Commercial Users _____ and % of Total Flow _____ to this particular disposal area.

Number of Residential Users _____ and % of Total Flow _____ to this particular disposal area.

MONTH _____

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K
DATE	PUMP READING		PUMP		PUMP RATE		QUANTITY	LEACH BEDS	LOADINGS
Week Ending	Present	Previous	# Cycles (B-C)	# Hours (B-C)	Gal/Cycle	Gal/Min (gpm)	Gallons Pumped (DxF) or (E x G)	Name or Number of Bed(s) Utilized	Gal/Day to Beds (H ÷ # Days)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Complete Set Of Monthly Monitoring Reports For The Year _____.

Facility name: _____

Operator Name: _____
Operator's Job Title: _____
Work Location: _____
Telephone Number: _____
Other Facility Contact Name: _____
Other Facility Contact's Title: _____
Work Location: _____
Telephone Number: _____

Total Number Of Leach Field Disposal Areas Licensed: _____
Total Design Flow (G.P.D.) To All Leach Field Disposal Areas Combined: _____

Actual, Annual, Daily Average Influent Flow (G.P.D.) For This Particular Disposal Area: _____
Design Flow (G.P.D.) For This Particular Disposal Area: _____
Number Of Leach Beds Used At Any One Time: _____
Number Of Leach Beds Rested At Any One Time: _____

Signature Of Responsible Official _____ Date: _____
Job Title: _____

MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE

FACT SHEET

Date: March 16, 2007
Revised: April 19, 2007

COMPLIANCE TRACKING NUMBER: #MEU507878
WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE NUMBER: #W-007878-5L-C-R

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Town of Cornish
Attn: Greg Wilfert
P.O Box 391
Cornish, ME 04020

COUNTY: CUMBERLAND

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY:

Cornish Subsurface Wastewater Treatment System
School Street
Cornish, ME

RECEIVING WATER/ CLASSIFICATION: Groundwater/Class GW-A

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER: Greg Wilfert
(207) 625-4324 / 730-1746

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY:

Application: The applicant has applied for a renewal of Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W007878-58-B-R / Compliance Tracking System #MEU507878, which was issued on June 26, 2002 and expires on June 26, 2007. The WDL licensed the discharge of 0.007 million gallons per day (MGD) (7,000 gallons per day) of treated sanitary wastewater from a single sub-surface treatment "system" to the groundwater, Class GW-A, in Cornish, Maine.

2. LICENSE SUMMARY

a. Terms and Conditions - By this renewal the Department is:

- carrying forward certain operational constraints and use restrictions germane to the successful operation of subsurface treatment systems; and

- eliminating previous requirements for Annual Subsurface System Performance Reports while establishing a requirement for a Subsurface System Performance Report as an exhibit to the facility's WDL renewal application.

b. History: Recent Department licensing actions include the following:

March 27, 1995	-	The Department informed the Town of Cornish that state law [38 MRSA Section 413 (1-B)] requires that municipal sub-surface disposal systems be licensed.
September 28, 1995	-	The Town of Cornish submitted an application to the Department for the operation of the subsurface disposal system.
November 1995	-	The Town of Cornish's treatment begins operation.
October 7, 1996	-	The Department issued WDL #W006272-45-A-N which authorized the Town of Cornish to discharge up to 7000 gallons per day (gpd) of wastewaters to the ground water via a single sub-surface systems. Expired on October 7, 2001.
April 22, 2002	-	The Town of Cornish submitted an application to the Department to renew WDL #W007878-58-A-N.
June 26, 2002	-	The Department issued WDL #W007878-5L-B-R renewing Cornish's license to discharge 0.007 MGD of treated sanitary wastewater from a single sub-surface treatment system. The WDL was issued for a five year period.

c. Source Description:

The wastewater treatment system was designed to serve 20 buildings in downtown Cornish. Attachment A of this Fact Sheet contains a table of these buildings and their design flows to the system as provided in the Cornish Operation and Maintenance Manual of January 1996 prepared by Bowker & Associates, Inc.

d. Waste Water Treatment:

The Cornish wastewater treatment system generally consists of gravity sewers, two large septic tanks, a main pump station and a large subsurface disposal field. The subsurface disposal field consists of 10 leach beds designed to accommodate up to 700 gallons per day, or a total of 7000 gallons per day.

Approximately 970 feet of 8-inch diameter PVC piping collects the raw sewage, and sewage flows by gravity through a series of manholes to two large septic tanks located on the north side of Route 25. Two buildings, the Cornish Library and the Red Mill (former fire station) are served individually by 1000-gallon septic tank/pump station combinations. A grease trap also services the Cornish Inn.

The raw sewage is treated and solids removed through the two large septic tanks (6000 and 4000 gallon tanks) arranged in series. The septic tanks are followed immediately by the main pumping station, which houses two 1 ½ horsepower submersible pumps. Each pump is dedicated to a separate 2-inch diameter PVC force main that conveys septic tank effluent to five leach beds each, of the subsurface disposal field on School Street. The pumps are designed to alternate and deliver approximately 30 gallons per minute (gpm) total flow to the five beds, or 6 gpm to each bed.

The sub-surface system provides a secondary level of treatment via septic tanks that provide settling and other physical, chemical and biological actions; and the sub-surface disposal field distributes the flow and utilizes the soil to further attenuate the pollutants in the wastewater.

Attachment B of this Fact Sheet contains a schematic of the collection system and a schematic of the subsurface disposal fields.

e. Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO's): There are no known combined sewer overflow points on the system.

f. Septage: The treatment facility is not authorized to accept septage into its system.

3. CONDITIONS OF THE LICENSE

Maine law, 38 M.R.S.A. Section 414-A, requires that the effluent limitations prescribed for discharges, including, but not limited to, effluent toxicity, require application of best practicable treatment (BPT), be consistent with the U.S. Clean Water Act, and ensure that the receiving waters attain the State water quality standards as described in Maine's Surface Water and Groundwater Classification Systems.

4. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Maine law, 38 M.R.S.A § 470 indicates the groundwater at the point of discharge is classified as Class GW-A receiving waters. Maine law, 38 M.R.S.A., §465-C describes the standards for Class GW-A waters as the highest classification of groundwater and shall be of such quality that it can be used for public water supplies. These waters shall be free of radioactive matter or any matter that imparts color, turbidity, taste or odor which would impair the usage of these waters, other than occurring from natural phenomena.

5. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

This licensing action carries forward certain operational constraints and use restrictions from the previous licensing action that the Department feels are germane to the successful operation of subsurface treatment systems. This licensing action eliminates previous requirements for Annual Subsurface System Performance Reports while establishing a requirement for a Subsurface System Performance Report as an exhibit to the facility's WDL renewal application.

6. USER EDUCATION

User education in the proper use and maintenance of the subsurface system is critical to the long-term operation of the disposal fields and the protection of groundwater. Therefore, the licensee is expected to provide system users with regular informational mailings, or similar means of public contact, on the proper use and maintenance of the subsurface wastewater system. Such as: proper disposal of hazardous waste, elimination of harmful household cleaners, grease and other non-degradables in the system; and water conservation practices.

7. MAINTAIN ADEQUATE BUFFERS AND LAND FOR REPLACEMENT

The licensee is expected to provide adequate buffers from other land uses, and retain where possible land for system expansion or replacement.

8. GARBAGE DISPOSALS

Garbage disposal systems can increase the amount of solids added to the system up to 50 percent and should not be used with subsurface systems. However, if such units are proposed or in use, it is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that the subsurface system can accommodate the additional waste and that all necessary measures are taken, as specified in the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Rules, to prevent excess suspended solids from entering the disposal system.

9. BACKWASH FROM HOME WATER SOFTENERS

Backwash from home water softeners are believed to hinder the operation of septic tanks under certain conditions and it shall be the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that such systems are prohibited.

10. DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY

As licensed, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards for Class GW-A classification.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the Weekly Shopping Guide newspaper on or about March 14, 2007. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on that application. Those persons receiving copies of draft licenses shall have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to Chapter 522 of the Department's rules.

12. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS:

Additional information concerning this licensing action may be obtained from and written comments should be sent to:

Robert D. Stratton
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Telephone (207) 287-6114
Fax (207) 287-3435
email: Robert.D.Stratton@maine.gov

13. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the period of March 16, 2007 through April 16, 2007, the Department solicited comments on the proposed draft Maine Waste Discharge License to be issued to the Town of Cornish for the proposed discharge. The Department did not receive any comments that resulted in significant revisions to the license, but made some minor internal revisions. Therefore, no response to comments has been prepared.

ATTACHMENT A

System Contributors

FACT SHEET
Attachment A
W007878-5L-C-R

TABLE I

BUILDINGS SERVED BY CORNISH SEWER SYSTEM

Lot No. from tax map	Description	Basis of Flow Estimate	Design Flow gpd
1	Single family residential & convenience store 2 employees 3 BR	15 gpd/person 90 gpd/BR	30 270 300
4	Single family residential 3 BR	90 gpd/BR	270
5	Duplex residential 4 BR up 4 BR down	90 gpd/BR	720
8	Retail and residential Retail (2): 4 employees max 1 BR down potential for 2 BR upstairs	15 gpd/person 90 gpd/BR 90 gpd/BR	60 90 180 330
9	Office, retail, & potential residential Office & retail: 4 employees max. Potential for one 2-BR apt	15 gpd/person 90 gpd/BR	60 180 240
10	Retail - Feed store 3 employees max.	15 gpd/person	45
11	Retail & residential Store - 2 employees Apt - 1 BR	15 gpd/person 90 gpd/BR	30 90 120
12	Retail & potential residential 14 seat ice cream parlor One 2 BR apt	15 gpd/seat 90 gpd/BR	210 180 390

TABLE I (cont'd)

BUILDINGS SERVED BY CORNISH SEWER SYSTEM

15	Retail - Hardware 3 employees max.	15 gpd/person	45
26	Library 20 seats	5 gpd/seat	100
27	Residential (former Carriage Inn) 9 BR	90 gpd/BR	810
37	Church		150
38	Single family residential 5 BR	90 gpd/BR	450
39	Single family residential 1 BR	90 gpd/BR	90
40	Hotel 15 rooms Dining room 32 seats (breakfast, dinner) Residential 4 BR	50 gpd/room 20 gpd/seat 90 gpd/BR	750 640 360 1,750
43	Odd Fellows Hall		150
68	Retail - Antique store 3 employees max. Potential for one 2 BR apt	15 gpd/person 90 gpd/BR	45 180 225
71	Residential 5 BR existing	90 gpd/BR	450
77	Retail - Gift shop	15 gpd/person	75
TOTAL			6,710

ATTACHMENT B

Facility Schematics and Location Map

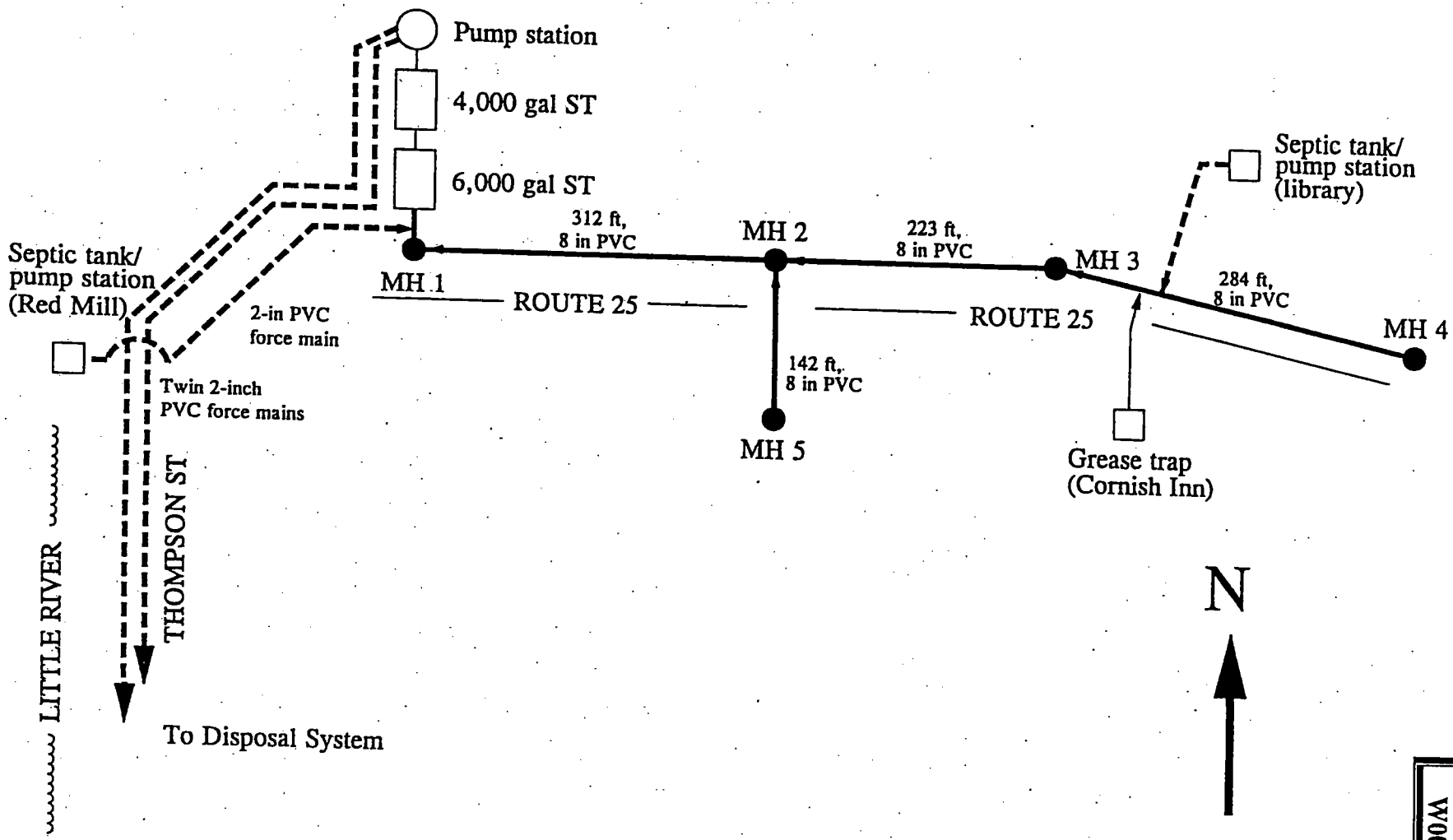


FIGURE 1. SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF THE CORNISH SEWER SYSTEM

FACT SHEET
Attachment B
W007878-5L-C-R

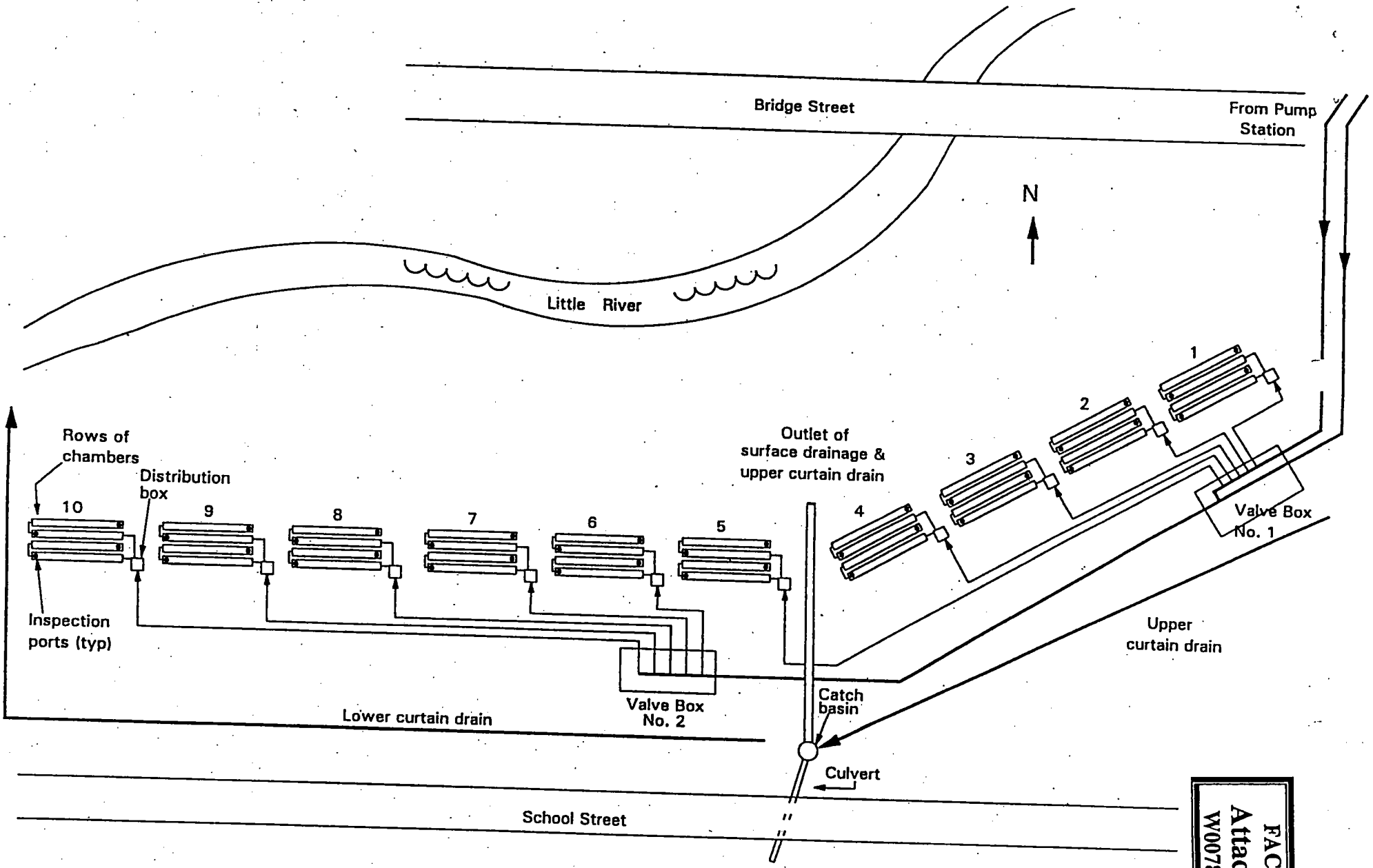
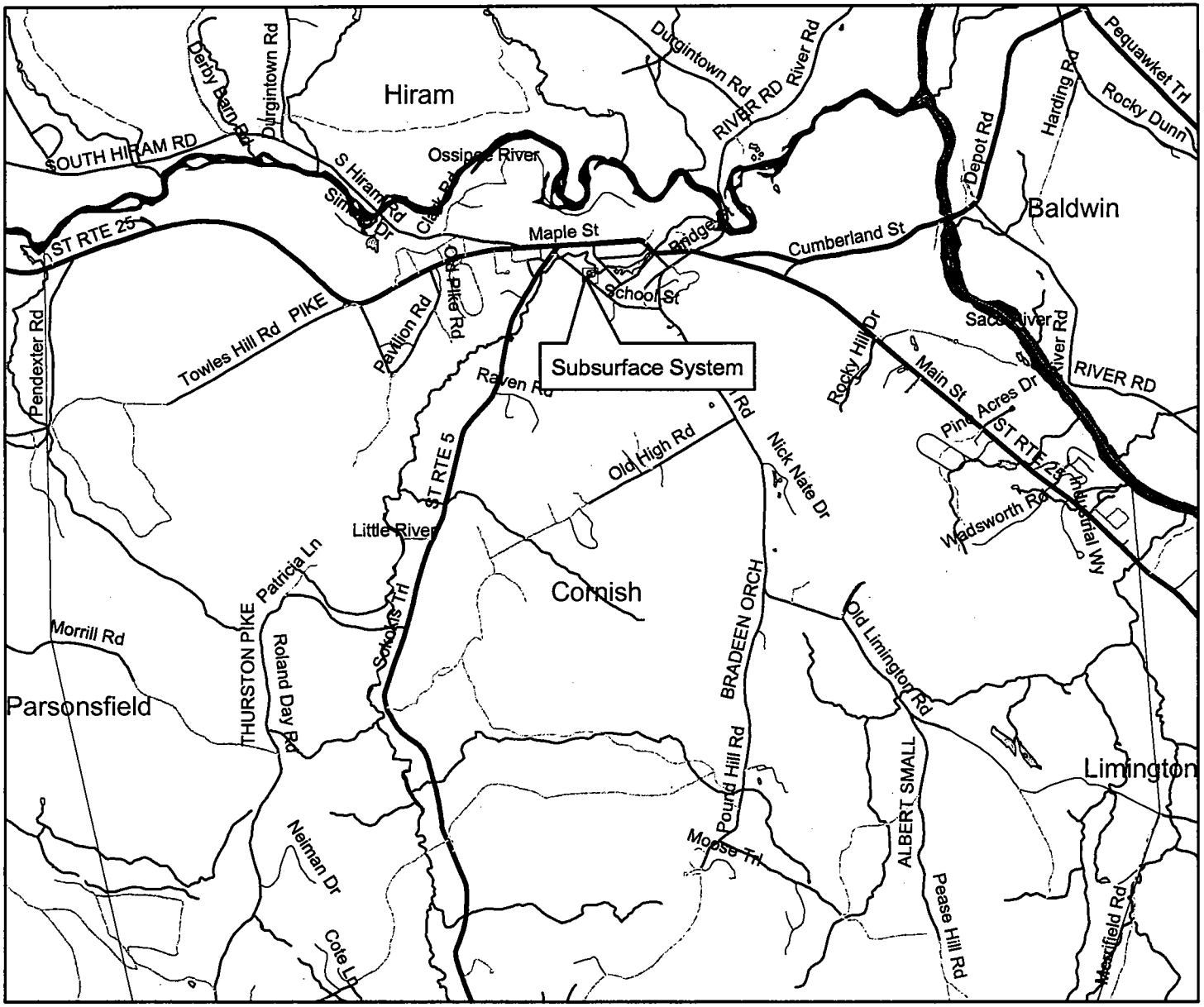


FIGURE 2 SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

FACT SHEET
Attachment B
W007878-5L-C-R



Legend

Rivers
- AA
- A
- B
- C

Streams
- AA
- A
- B
- C

- Ponds and Lakes
- Wastewater_Facilities
- Wastewater_Outfalls

Roads

JURISDICTION
- Town Road
- Town Road - Summer
- Town Road - Winter
- State-aided Highway
- State Highway
- Toll Highway
- Private Road
- Reservation Road
- Seasonal Parkway

N

0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Town of Cornish
Cornish, Maine

Map created by:
Bob Stratton
Division of Water Quality Management
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE OF MAINE

SEPTIC SYSTEM DO's AND DON'Ts

DO's

Do learn the location of your septic tank and drainfield. Keep a sketch of it handy with your maintenance record for service visits.

Do have your septic system inspected annually.

Do have your septic tank pumped out regularly by a licensed contractor. *(See the table on page 6 for estimated pumping frequencies.)*

Do keep your septic tank cover accessible for inspections and pumpings. Install risers if necessary.

Do call a professional whenever you experience problems with your system, or if there are any signs of system failure.

Do keep a detailed record of repairs, pumpings, inspections, permits issued, and other maintenance activities.

Do conserve water to avoid overloading the system. Be sure to repair any leaky faucets or toilets.

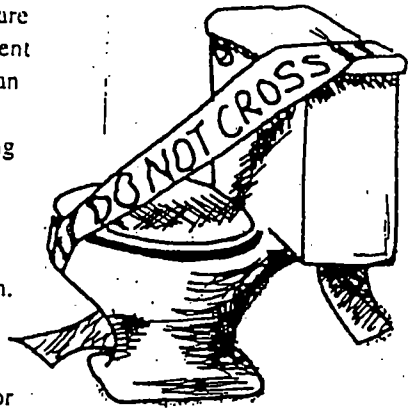
Do divert other sources of water, like roof drains, house footing drains, and sump pumps, away from the septic system. Excessive water keeps the soil in the drainfield from naturally cleansing the wastewater.

WARNING

Be sure to exercise appropriate caution when inspecting a septic tank. Never allow anyone to inspect a septic tank alone or go down into a septic tank. Toxic gases are produced by the natural treatment processes in septic tanks and can kill in minutes—even just looking in the tank can be dangerous.

DON'Ts

Don't go down into a septic tank. Toxic gases are produced by the natural treatment processes in septic tanks and can kill in minutes. Extreme care should be taken when inspecting a septic tank, even when just looking in.



Don't allow anyone to drive or park over any part of the system.

Don't plant anything over or near the drainfield except grass. Roots from nearby trees or shrubs may clog and damage the drain lines.

Don't dig in your drainfield or build anything over it, and don't cover the drainfield with a hard surface such as concrete or asphalt. The area over the drainfield should have only a grass cover. The grass will not only prevent erosion, but will help remove excess water.

Don't make or allow repairs to your septic system without obtaining the required health department permit. Use professional licensed septic contractors when needed.

Don't use septic tank additives. These products usually do not help and some may even be harmful to your system.

Don't use your toilet as a trash can or poison your septic system and the groundwater by pouring harmful chemicals and cleansers down the drain. Harsh chemicals can kill the beneficial bacteria that treat your wastewater.

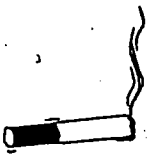
Don't use a garbage disposal without checking with your local regulatory agency to make sure that your septic system can accommodate this additional waste.

Don't allow backwash from home water softeners to enter the septic system.

Do not flush

coffee grinds
dental floss
disposable diapers
kitty litter
sanitary napkins
tampons

cigarette butts
condoms
fat, grease, or oil
paper towels



and hazardous chemicals, such as:
paints
varnishes
thinners
waste oils
photographic solutions
pesticides

These items can overtax or destroy the biological digestion taking place within your system.