



2011 Homeowner's Onsite Wastewater Management Systems

A guide to the installation, use and care of your onsite wastewater management system

www.manitoba.ca/conservation/envprograms/wastewater/index.html

Holding Tanks

Holding tanks are commonly used for wastewater collection in cottage country or in areas where disposal fields are not permitted. Holding tanks are normally single-compartment tanks that need to be pumped out regularly by a registered sewage hauler.

A holding tank must be made of concrete, fibreglass, polyethylene or other approved material, and must bear a Canadian Standards association (CSA) stamp. The minimum total capacity for sewage holding tanks in Manitoba is 4,500 litres (1,000 gallons). If all water closets installed in a building are low-water use toilets (use less than five litres/one gallon per flush), the holding tank may have a minimum total capacity of 3,400 litres (750 gallons).

Holding tanks must be installed with the same minimum setback requirements as septic tanks but should also be located where they can be easily accessed by a sewage pump-out truck. A holding tank cannot be installed in areas where pump-out service is not available, or where there are no facilities for the final disposal of the wastewater.

The Septic Tank Must be Set Back At Least:

1 metre (3.25 feet)
from a building

3 metres (10 feet)
from any property boundary

8 metres (26 feet)
from any well

15 metres (50 feet)
from a watercourse (excluding a ditch)

8 metres (26 feet)
from a cut or embankment

3 metres (10 feet)
from a cistern (water holding tank)

Nada Suresh, Environment Officer: Selkirk 785.5367 or nada.suresh@gov.mb.ca