



## ADVISORY LETTER

To: Certified System Inspectors  
From: Kristen Keller, Acting Health Director   
Date: August 1, 2018  
Re: Standards For Title 5 System Inspections  
CC: Paul Covell, Chairman, Board of Health

I intend this Advisory Letter to update and replace the advisory that we disseminated four years ago. We request that you adhere to the following standards when you submit Septic System Inspection Reports:

- Per 310 CMR 15.301(10), all reports shall be received by the Local Approving Authority, i.e. the Dennis Health Department, within 30 days of the field inspection.
- Per 310 CMR 15.301(10), incomplete or inaccurate reports are a violation of Title 5 and they will not be accepted.
- Please use the most current inspection form.
- Absolutely no type of repair to a cesspool is allowed; if a sewer line, cover, block, riser, or any other part of a cesspool requires repair or replacement, the system will fail and require upgrade.
- In addition to the conditions on the inspection form, the following situations require "Further Evaluation by the Local Approving Authority."
  - Any system that shows signs of past hydraulic failure (water/scum marks over inlet pipes, solids in d-box);
  - Single cesspool systems that are borderline passing;
  - The existence of a garbage grinder connected to a cesspool or to any other system not designed for it;
  - Any system with H10 components located under parking/driveway areas;
  - Any system that is undersized for its intended use;
  - Any system where a component is located under a deck, shed, or any other structure.
- Groundwater shall be determined using a current auger hole (less than 5 years old) in all Environmentally Sensitive Areas where maximum high groundwater is less than 6 feet from the ground surface.

If you have any questions or need our assistance with anything, please call us at 508 760 6158. We are here to help!