



Town of Dennis
Health Department

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Health Director

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**DENNIS BOARD OF HEALTH
SEWER CONNECTION REGULATION**

1. AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE

This regulation is enacted under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 83, Section 3 and 11, Chapter 111, Section 31 and 122 and 127, and are enacted for the protection of the public health, safety, welfare, and environment and for the further purpose of ensuring the protection of wetland resources and the public water supply.

2. CONNECTION TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

- a. The owner(s) of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment or recreation, or structures which in any way generate wastewater flows, situated within the Town of Dennis and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which there is located, or may in the future be located, a public sanitary sewer line of the building sewer as defined in the Town of Dennis Sewer Use Regulations as adopted by the Dennis Select Board acting as Sewer Commissioners. Such connection shall be within one year from the date of the mailed notice of sewer availability, by the Town of Dennis, acting by and through the Board of Health.
- b. All properties as to which such notice has been mailed and to which ownership is transferred, shall be required to connect to the sewer line within 90 days of transfer, or one year from the date of the official notice to connect, whichever is later.
- c. The Board of Health shall have the authority to defer deadlines in this regulation if, in the opinion of said Board, the provisions of this regulation impose an extraordinary hardship on a property owner(s). Requests for deferment must be submitted in writing.
- d. No new septic systems will be approved for any property that is located in an active construction phase for the sewer system. Any property owner granted temporary relief from the requirement to install a new septic system in an active sewer construction phase will be required to follow all orders from the Board of Health to pump and maintain the existing system until the new sewer system is available for connection to their property. The property must be connected within 90 days of notification of availability.
- e. Any property owner(s) who has installed an alternative septic system, as defined in 310 CMR: Department of Environmental Protection, Title 5, less than 10 years prior to an order to connect may, upon approval by the Board of Health, defer connection to Town sewer to allow them to utilize their alternative septic system for a total of ten years from the date of the issuance of the certificate of compliance for said system. The owners of said system must prove a history of compliance in operation and maintenance of the

system as contained in the Board of Health and Department of Environmental Protection approval. If the property is transferred during that time, the property shall be connected to the public sewer within 90 days, unless the Board of Health has approved an extension prior to the transfer. Requests for extension must be submitted in writing to the Board of Health.

- f. If a septic system having been granted deferment by the Board is required to be repaired, upgraded, or modified, the owner of such property shall connect to the sewer within 90 calendar days of receiving written notification from the Board or its designee.
- g. All costs and expenses associated with the installation and connection to the public sewer shall be the sole responsibility of the property owner(s) and shall be governed by the Town of Dennis Sewer Connection Regulations.
- h. Property owner(s) at the time of connection to the public sewer shall; pump, fill and abandon in place, or remove any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private wastewater disposal facilities serving said property in a manner approved by the Board of Health, in accordance with the requirements of Title 5. Any abandonment procedure requires a Disposal Works Construction Permit issued by the Board of Health.

3. SEVERABILITY

If any portion, sentence, or clause is held invalid, the remainder of the regulation shall remain in full force and effect.

4. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

The Board of Health or its enforcement officer (s) shall enforce this regulation.

Any person who violates these regulations shall be subject to the non-criminal disposition procedure set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 40 Section 21D.

For the purpose of this provision, the penalty to apply in the event of a violation shall be as follows:

- \$100 for the first offense
- \$200 for the second offense
- \$300 for the third offense and each subsequent offense.

Each day on which a violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense.

- a. In addition, the Board of Health may enforce these regulations through the assessment of a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each day of violation in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 83 Section 10.
- b. The Board may also seek condemnation, resulting in the right to occupy the dwelling.
- c. The Board may also seek injunctive relief in court to enforce these regulations.

Board of Health


Paul J. Coyell, Chairman


Joseph E. Bunce, Vice Chairman


Diane T. Chamberlain, Clerk

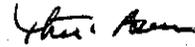

Robert F. Duffy


Carol Terrio

Approved: July 10, 2025
Effective: July 24, 2025

July 23, 2025

A True Copy Attest:



Dennis Town Clerk