



TOWN OF BELLINGHAM

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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FLOOR DRAIN REGULATION

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1-07

BELLINGHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

February 12, 2007

NOTES:

1. This regulation has been designed to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Wellhead Protection "Source Approval" Regulations 310 CMR 22.21(2)(a)8 within designated Zone II areas.
2. Though the regulations cited above only require that the regulation cover the Zone II of the public water supply in the Source Approval process, this regulation applies to the entire town so as to be consistent with the state regulations (310 CMR 27.00) prohibiting discharges of the nature discussed in this regulation.

Section I. PURPOSE OF REGULATION

Whereas:

- Floor drains in industrial and commercial facilities are often tied to a system leading to a leaching structure (e.g. dry well, cesspool, leach field) or a septic system; and
- Poor management practices and accidental and/or intentional discharges may lead petroleum and other toxic or hazardous materials into these drainage systems in facilities managing these products; and
- Improper maintenance or inappropriate use of these systems may allow the passage of contaminants or pollutants entering the drain to discharge from the leaching structure or septic system to the ground; and
- Discharges of hazardous wastes and other pollutants to floor drains leading to leaching structures and septic systems have repeatedly threatened surface and ground water quality throughout Massachusetts; and
- Surface and ground water resources in the Town of Bellingham contribute to the town's drinking water supplies;

The Town of Bellingham adopts the following regulation, under its authority as specified in Section II, as a preventative measure for the purposes of:

- Preserving and protecting the Town of Bellingham's drinking water resources from discharges of pollutants to the ground via floor drains, and

Use of Toxic or Hazardous Material: The handling, generation, treatment, storage, or management of toxic or hazardous materials.

Section IV. PROHIBITIONS

With the exception of discharges that have received (or have applied and will receive) a Department issued permit prior to the effective date of this regulation, no floor drain(s) shall be allowed to discharge, with or without pretreatment (such as an oil/water separator), to the ground, a leaching structure, or septic system in any industrial or commercial facility if such floor drain is located in either:

- A. An industrial or commercial process area,
- B. A petroleum, toxic, or hazardous materials and/or waste storage area, or
- C. A leased facility without either A or B of this section, but in which the potential for a change of use of the property to a use which does have either A or B is, in the opinion of the Board of Health or its agent, sufficient to warrant the elimination of the ground discharge at the present.

Section V. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING FACILITIES

- A. The owner of a facility in operation prior to the effective date of this regulation with a prohibited (as defined under Section IV) floor drain system shall:
 1. Disconnect and plug all applicable inlets to and outlets from (where possible) applicable leaching structures, oil/water separators, and/or septic systems;
 2. Remove all existing sludge in oil/water separators, septic systems, and where accessible, leaching structures. Any sludge determined to be a hazardous waste shall be disposed of in accordance with state hazardous waste regulations (310 CMR 30.000). Remedial activity involving any excavation and/or soil or groundwater sampling must be performed in accordance with appropriate Department policies;
 3. Alter the floor drain system so that the floor drain shall be either:
 - a. Connected to a holding tank that meets all applicable requirements of Department policies and regulations, with hauling records submitted to the Bellingham Board of Health at the time of hauling;
 - b. Connected to a municipal sanitary sewer line, if available, with all applicable Department and local permits; or
 - c. Permanently sealed. { Any facility sealing a drain shall be required to submit for approval to the Board of Health a hazardous waste management plan detailing the means of collecting, storing, and disposing any hazardous waste generated by the facility, including any spill or other discharge of hazardous materials or wastes.
- B. Any oil/water separator remaining in use shall be monitored weekly, cleaned not less than every 90 days, and restored to proper conditions after cleaning so as to ensure proper functioning. Records of the hauling of the removed contents of the separator shall be submitted to the Board of Health at the time of hauling.
- C. Compliance with all provisions of this regulation must be accomplished in a manner consistent with Massachusetts Plumbing, Building, and Fire code requirements.

D. Upon complying with one of the options listed under Section V.A.3., the owner/operator of the facility shall notify the Department of the closure of said system by filing the Department's UIC Notification Form with the Department, and sending a copy to the Bellingham Board of Health.

Section VI. EFFECTIVE DATES FOR ALL FACILITIES

The effective date of this regulation is the date posted on the front page of the regulation, which shall be identical to the date of adoption of the regulation.

A. Existing Facilities:

1. Owners/Operators of a facility affected by this regulation shall comply with all of its provisions within 180 days of the effective date;
2. All applicable discharges to the leaching structures and septic systems shall be discontinued immediately through temporary isolation or sealing of the floor drain.

B. New Facilities:

1. As of the effective date of the regulation, all new construction and/or applicable change of use within the Town of Bellingham shall comply with the provisions of this regulation.
2. Certification of conformance with the provisions of this regulation by the Board of Health shall be required prior to issuance of construction and occupancy permits.
3. The use of any new oil/water separator shall comply with the same requirements as for existing systems, as specified above in Section V. B.

Section VII. PENALTIES

Failure to comply with provisions of this regulation will result in the levy of fines of not less than \$300, but no more than \$1,000.00. Each day's failure to comply with the provisions of this regulation shall constitute a separate violation.

Section VIII. SEVERABILITY

Each provision of this regulation shall be construed as separate to the end that, if any provision, or sentence, clause or phrase thereof, shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of that section and all other sections shall continue in full force and effect.

Approved this day of February 12, 2007 by the Bellingham Board of Health



Camille Vaillant, Chairman



Vincent Forte



Walter Depaolo