

Regulation 61-55

Septic Tank Site Evaluation Fees

Disclaimer

DHEC provides this copy of the regulation for the convenience of the public and makes every effort to ensure its accuracy. However, this is an unofficial version of the regulation. The regulation's most recent final publication in the *South Carolina State Register* presents the official, legal version of the regulation.

Statutory Authority:

S.C. Code Sections 44-1-140(11) and 44-1-180

Regulation History as Published in State Register			
Date	Document Number	Volume	Issue
June 22, 2001	2457	25	6
June 22, 2007	3084	31	6
May 28, 2021*	4979*	45	5

***Proviso 34.64 of the 2021-2022 General Appropriations Act, effective July 1, 2021, directs DHEC to regulate onsite wastewater systems, including septic tanks and other sewage treatment and disposal systems, in the same manner as such systems were regulated on January 12, 2021. As such, the amendments made through the repeal of R.61-55 and its incorporation into R.61-56 made effective on May 28, 2021, in Document Number 4979 are not reflected herein; the Department provides this copy of R.61-55 as in effect on January 12, 2021.**

SECTION I. PURPOSE

A major factor influencing the health of individuals where public sewer is not available is the proper treatment and disposal of human excreta and other domestic wastes. To this end and to protect the environment from contamination by untreated sewage, the Department of Health and Environmental Control has established and maintained a conscientious program of designing individual sewage treatment and disposal systems, evaluating sites for suitability for individual sewage treatment and disposal systems and approving the installations of such systems. This direct service program is conducted primarily by public health professionals working in county health departments. Funding for the program comes from state appropriations and the fees authorized by this regulation.

SECTION II. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this regulation.

A. DEPARTMENT—The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

B. HEALTH AUTHORITY—An authorized representative of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

C. INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL SYSTEM—A system designed for the treatment and disposal of sewage by a septic tank and soil absorption trench. The term also includes alternatives to septic tanks and soil absorption trenches when such alternatives are approved by the Health Authority under the provisions of R.61-56, Individual Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems.

D. PERMIT—A written statement issued by the Health Authority permitting the construction of an individual sewage treatment and disposal system under the provisions of R.61-56, Individual Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems.

SECTION III. FEES

The Department shall charge a fee of \$150.00 to evaluate the site of a proposed individual sewage treatment and disposal system. This fee shall be paid prior to the evaluation of any site for which an application for a permit has been made.

SECTION IV. OTHER

A. DESIGNATION OF USE

Funds derived from these fees shall be used only for the provision of services and accompanying expenses associated with Environmental Health programs.

B. UNCONSTITUTIONALITY CLAUSE

Should any chapter, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this regulation be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this regulation shall not be affected thereby.