



Water Service Installations / Sanitary Sewer Facilities Separation Requirements

PROPOSED WATER SERVICE LINES AND/OR APPURTENANCES SHALL BE INSTALLED AT LEAST 10 FEET HORIZONTALLY FROM ANY EXISTING COMPONENT OF A PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM (PIPELINE, MANHOLE, VAULT, METER PIT, PUMP STATION WET WELLS, ETC.). DISTANCE SHALL BE MEASURED PERPENDICULARLY FROM EDGE OF PIPE TO EDGE OF PIPE. NO VERTICAL SEPARATION IS REQUIRED PROVIDED THE 10 FOOT HORIZONTAL SEPARATION IS MAINTAINED. WHEN THIS CRITERIA CANNOT BE MET, THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS APPLY (SEE BOTTOM OF PAGE FOR INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS):

1. Where it is not possible to maintain a 10 foot horizontal separation, a deviation may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Such deviation may allow installation of the sewer closer to a water service, provided that:

a.) The sewer line and water service are laid in separate trenches and the crown of the sewer line shall be at least 18 inches **below** the bottom of the water service.

OR

b.) The sewer line and water service may be installed in the same trench with the water service placed on a bench of undisturbed earth and the crown of the sewer line shall be at least 18 inches **below** the bottom of the water service.

2. In cases where it is impossible to obtain proper horizontal and vertical separation as stipulated above (including crossing over), the following protection shall be provided:

a.) Encasement of the sewer pipe in concrete with a minimum thickness of 6" in all directions around the outside of the pipe extending to a distance that will provide the required 10 feet horizontal or 18 inch vertical separation between the unencased portions of the pipes.

OR

b.) Placing either the sewer line or water service in a watertight carrier pipe extending to a distance that will provide the required 10 feet horizontal or 18 inch vertical separation between the unencased portions of the pipes.

INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS (SEPTIC SYSTEMS), ARE REGULATED BY R.I. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (RIDEM). MINIMUM DISTANCES BETWEEN DRINKING WATER LINES AND SEPTIC SYSTEM COMPONENTS ARE: **25 FEET (MIN)** TO LEACHING TRENCHES, BEDS, AND PITS; AND **10 FEET (MIN)** TO SEPTIC TANKS, DISTRIBUTION BOXES, GREASE TRAPS, DOSING CHAMBERS, PUMP CHAMBERS AND BUILDING SEWERS. WHEN THESE DISTANCES CANNOT BE MET, RIDEM REQUIRES ENCASEMENT OF WATER LINES AT LEAST TO THE POINT WHERE THE REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTANCES CAN BE MET. ENCASEMENT MUST BE APPROVED BY RIDEM AND THE APPROVED PLAN MUST BE PRESENTED AS PART OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS TO OBTAIN WATER SERVICE. **PRESSURIZED SEWER LINES CANNOT CROSS WATER LINES.**