

*This is an unofficial translation. The binding version is the official Hebrew text.*

*Readers are consequently advised to consult qualified professional counsel before making any decision in connection with the enactment, which is here presented in translation for their general information only.*

## Water Regulations (Prevention of Water Pollution) (Cesspits and Septic Tanks), 5752-1992

By the power vested in me under Section 20D (a) (1) of the Water Law, 5719-1959 (hereinafter - the Law), after consultation with the Water Council, and with the approval of the Economics Committee of the Knesset, I make the following Regulations:

### Definitions

#### 1 In these Regulations -

"Cesspit" – a pit used or designated to be used for the reception of sewage for the purpose of its disposal by means of infiltration into the ground;

"Domestic cesspit" – a cesspit used for the reception of domestic sewage and sanitary sewage;

"Industrial cesspit" – a pit used for the reception of industrial sewage, except for a drilling that was lawfully approved and is designated for the controlled disposal of industrial sewage into subsoil layers;

"Septic tank" – a pit used or designated to be used for the reception of sewage;

"Sewage vehicle" – a vehicle designated for emptying a septic tank or a cesspit and for removal of the sewage that has accumulated in it;

"The Minister" – the Minister of Environmental Protection or whoever he has empowered for the purposes of these Regulations;

"Holder" – an owner or holder of a property in which a septic tank or cesspit is located;

"Sewage treatment facility" – a lawfully established facility

used or designated to be used for reducing the concentration of pollutants in sewage;

"Sewage system" - a system used for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage;

"Operator" – the owner, holder, or in relation to a sewage vehicle  
– the driver;

"Sewage" – waste which is removed by discharge, including sludge and suspended solids;

"Sanitary sewage" – sewage which originates in the sanitary conveniences of a place as stated in the definition of industrial sewage and which is discharged in a separate system from the industrial sewage of that place;

"Industrial sewage" – sewage, except for sanitary sewage, that originates in a place in which work is done or products and materials are manufactured, including hospitals, and any place used for the processing, storage, cleaning and testing of any product or material.

Cesspit  
prohibition

2. (a) A person shall not install an industrial cesspit.
- (b) A person shall not install a domestic cesspit –
  - (1) In a locality in which there is a sewage system;
  - (2) In a locality in which or in part of which there is no sewage system – in a building serving more than twelve residential units.
- (c) In a locality in which or in part of which there is no sewage system, a domestic cesspit may be installed in the locality or that part in which there is no sewage system, if the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (1) The domestic cesspit is intended to receive sewage from a building used for residential purposes in which there are no more than three residential units and in which there is no reasonable possibility to install a sewage system or sewage treatment facility;
  - (2) The domestic cesspit is designated to receive sewage from a building used for residential purposes in which there are more than three but less than thirteen residential units,

subject to the written approval of the Minister;

(3) The sewage outlet pipe from the building as stated in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be connected to a septic tank sealed against infiltration, and which shall be connected to the domestic cesspit.

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| Emptying of pit         | 3  | <p>(a) An owner shall as the need arises empty a blocked up septic tank or cesspit, as the case may be, of sewage that has accumulated in it in order to prevent the overflow of sewage from the pit.</p> <p>(b) An owner shall not empty a septic tank or a cesspit as stated in subregulation (a) other than by means of a sewage vehicle.</p> <p>(c) A sewage vehicle operator shall only empty the contents of the vehicle into a sewage treatment facility, and following prior coordination with the operator of the sewage treatment facility.</p>   |
| Saving of laws          | 4. | These Regulations are intended to add to the provisions of any law in relation to sewage and not to derogate from them.   |
| Penalties               | 5. | A person who contravenes any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be liable to the penalties stated in Section 20U of the Law.  |
| Commencement            | 6. | These Regulations shall enter into force three months from the date of their publication (hereinafter - the commencement date).   |
| Transitional provisions | 7. | <p>An owner of a cesspit –</p> <p>(1) Shall block up a cesspit that is not in use – after its emptying – within three months from the commencement date.</p> <p>(2) Shall disconnect the sewage outlet pipe from an industrial cesspit within a year from the commencement date, and shall connect it to the sewage system, if one exists, and if not – to a sewage treatment facility which the Minister has approved;</p> <p>(3) Shall disconnect the sewage outlet pipe from a domestic cesspit within two years from the commencement date, and shall connect it to the sewage system, if one exists, and if not – to a septic tank sealed against infiltration of sewage into the ground, which shall be connected to the cesspit.</p> |