



MEMORANDUM

TO: Environmental Health Directors
THRU: Jane Gottfredson, Acting Chief ^{JCG}
Division of Residential Sanitation
FROM: Jay Prager, Acting Chief ^{JP}
Innovative/Alternative Section
DATE: October 26, 1990
SUBJECT: Guidance on Waterless Toilet Systems

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) does not prohibit the use of any NSF approved incinerator or composting toilet for use anywhere in the State. Plumbing fixtures, however, must meet all other applicable regulations including COMAR 09.20 Board of Commissioners of Practical Plumbing and more stringent local ordinances or regulations when they exist.

The Department's current recommendation is to allow a 36 percent design flow reduction for residences when utilizing an NSF approved incinerating or composting/waterless toilet. Design flow reduction for other uses should be determined on a case-by-case basis. This will provide a reduction in the initial system size only. The minimum sewage disposal area requirements are contained in COMAR 26.04.02.02B, 26.04.02.04F and 26.04.03.03A(1). In summary, the minimum regulations require that:

- 1) For those lots legally established without Department approval and lots approved by the Department prior to November 17, 1985, one initial and one replacement area are required. However, if a lot was approved subject to a 10,000 square foot or greater disposal area this disposal area must be maintained.
- 2) For any lot created after the above date, one initial and two recovery areas not less than 10,000 square feet are required.

The Department is not planning to change or reduce the area requirements of the cited regulations in any way.

Innovative greywater designs are currently allowed on a case-by-case basis under the Innovative and Alternative Program.

JP:je

cc: Regional Consultants