

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025

CHAPTER 68
COMMERCIAL SEPTIC TANK CLEANERS

567—68.1(455B) Purpose, and applicability, and definitions.

68.1(1) The purpose of this chapter is to implement Iowa Code section 455B.172(5), and 455B.172(6), and 2011 Iowa Code Supplement section 455B.172A by providing standards for the commercial cleaning of and the disposal of waste from private sewage disposal systems (PSDSs) and toilet units, and wastewater from on-farm food processing operations and by providing licensing requirements and procedures. ~~These rules govern the commercial cleaning of and the disposal of wastes from private sewage disposal systems and on-farm food processing operations.~~

[ARC 0208C, IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

567—68.2(455B) 68.1(2) Definitions. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply terms shall have the meanings indicated:

“Cleaning” means removal of waste from ~~PSDS private sewage disposal systems~~ and other actions incidental to that removal.

“Commercial septic tank cleaner” means a person or firm engaged in the business of cleaning and disposing of waste from ~~PSDS private sewage disposal systems~~, including a person or firm that owns and rents or leases portable toilets.

“Department” means the Iowa department of natural resources.

“Food commodity” is defined in Iowa Code section 455B.171(8), means any commodity that is derived from an agricultural animal or crop, both as defined in Iowa Code section 717A.1, which is intended for human consumption in its raw or processed state.

1. A food commodity in its raw state for processing includes, but is not limited to, milk, eggs, vegetables, fruits, nuts, syrup, and honey.

2. A food commodity in its processed state includes, but is not limited to, dairy products, pastries, pies, and meat or poultry products.

“Holding tank for waste” is defined in 567—subrule 69.1(2), means any receptacle for the retention or storage of waste pending removal for further treatment or disposal.

“On-farm processing operation” is defined in Iowa Code section 455B.171(18), means any place located on a farm where the form or condition of a food commodity originating from that farm or another farm is changed or packaged for human consumption, including but not limited to a dairy, creamery, winery, distillery, cannery, bakery, or meat or poultry processor. “On-farm processing operation” does not include food commodities processed by a person exclusively for use by the person and members of the person’s household ~~or~~ the person’s nonpaying guests and employees.

“Private sewage disposal system” means a system which provides for the treatment or disposal of domestic sewage from four or fewer dwelling units or the equivalent of fewer than 16 individuals on a continuing basis, including domestic waste, whether residential or nonresidential, but not including industrial waste of any flow rate except as provided for in 567—68.11(455B). “Private sewage disposal system” includes, but is not limited to, septic tanks as defined in 567—subrule 69.1(2); holding tanks for waste; and impervious vault toilets, portable toilets, and chemical toilets as described in 567—69.15(455B).

“Septage” means the liquid and solid material pumped from a septic tank, cesspool, or similar domestic sewage treatment system, or from a holding tank, when the system is cleaned or maintained.

“Tank” means any container ~~that~~ which is placed on a vehicle to transport waste removed from a private waste facility.

“Toilet unit” is defined in Iowa Code section 455B.171(6), means a portable or fixed tank or vessel holding untreated human waste without secondary wastewater treatment which is emptied for disposal. “Toilet unit” does not include a portable or fixed tank or vessel holding untreated human waste that is part of a recreational vehicle or marine vessel.

“Vehicle” means a device used to transport a tank, including a trailer.

“Waste” means human or animal excreta, water, scum, sludge, septage, and grease solids from ~~PSDS private sewage disposal systems or toilet units.~~

[ARC 0208C, IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

Commented [1]: 68.1 - add reference to 455B.172(6), as this chapter covers toilet units.

Commented [2]: 68.1 - "and toilet units"; added for clarity; are NOT adding new requirements for toilet units.

Commented [3]: 68.1, "These rules govern..." - striking repetitive sentence.

Commented [4]: New 68.1(2), "definitions apply..." changed to match text in Ch 60.

Commented [5]: "Department" - is defined in Ch 60.

Commented [6]: "Food commodity" - replace w/ Iowa Code reference.

Commented [7]: "Holding tank for waste" - defined in Ch 69.

Commented [8]: "On-farm processing operation" - add reference to Iowa Code.

Commented [9]: "Private sewage disposal system" - defined in Ch 60 & 69.

Commented [10]: "Septage" - added to Ch 60 as an Iowa Code reference.

Commented [11]: Toilet unit" - replace w/ Iowa Code reference.

Commented [12]: "Waste" definition, "systems or toilet units" - adding clarifying text; existing requirement.

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025**567—68.23(455B) Commercial septic tank and toilet unit cleaner licensing requirements and procedures.**

68.2(1) General. Commercial septic tank and toilet unit cleaners must annually apply for and obtain a license from the department before engaging in the commercial cleaning of and disposal of septage from any ~~PSDS private sewage disposal system~~ or the commercial cleaning and disposal of wastes from any toilet unit in the state of Iowa. The license period will run from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. ~~The owners~~ of a septic tank may clean their the owner's own tank without being licensed if all other requirements of this chapter are met.

567—68.4(455B) Licensing procedures.

68.4(1)68.2(2) Application for license. A commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner must apply for a license by completing a department form ~~provided by the department~~ and submitting it to the department with an annual septage disposal waste management plan (SDMP) and the license fee ~~to the Department of Natural Resources, License Bureau, Henry A. Wallace Building, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319~~. In the case of a commercial septic tank cleaner ~~that which~~ is a corporation, partnership, association, or any other business entity, the entity itself must apply as provided in this rule. The entity shall designate a person with requisite authority ~~one person, such as a partner, officer, manager, supervisor, or other full-time employee,~~ to act as its representative when ~~for the purpose of~~ applying for a license. Individuals employed by a commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner business are not required to be licensed, but each cleaning unit (vehicle or tank) must display ~~have~~ the business license number (except for the year) ~~displayed and a copy of the current license with the cleaning unit.~~

68.4(2)68.2(3) Waste management plan Septage Disposal Management Plan (SDMP). ~~An~~ The applicant must submit ~~as a part of the application an~~ septage disposal management plan SDMP with a license application using a department form. ~~The plan~~ Applicants must also ~~be submitted~~ the SDMP to the county board of health in each county where septage is to be land-applied.

a. The plan ~~An~~ SDMP shall include:

(1) A list of vehicles to be registered for use by the licensee.

(2) a. The volume of septage expected to be collected from ~~PSDS private sewage disposal facilities~~ or toilet units.

(3) For disposal to another system, including a publicly owned treatment works (POTW), a different permitted wastewater disposal system (DS), a permitted septage lagoon or septage drying bed, or a permitted sanitary landfill:

1. b. The volume of septage or waste to be taken to each system; ~~permitted publicly owned treatment works and~~

2. c. A letter of acceptance from the owner of each system ~~any publicly operated treatment works~~ where septage or waste is proposed to be disposed.

(4) a. For septage disposal by land application:

1. The location and area of all sites where septage is to be land-applied;

2. The anticipated volume of septage applied to each site;

3. The type of crop to be planted on each site and the date when planting will occur ~~when the crop is to be planted; and~~

4. The type of land application to be used at each site.

h. A list of vehicles to be registered.

i. Rescinded IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12.

b. Allowance may be made in an SDMP ~~the plan~~ for septage application on the property of the owner of the tank being pumped as long as the disposal standards of this chapter are met.

c. A license will be issued only after department approval of the SDMP ~~waste management plan~~. If the SDMP ~~plan~~ is not approved by the department, it must be modified and resubmitted.

68.2(4) SDMP alteration. An amended SDMP must be submitted to the department and the county before septage is land applied to any new property not listed in the existing SDMP, or septage is taken to a system not listed in the SDMP.

68.4(3)68.2(5) License fees:

Commented [13]: New 68.2 - Combined old 68.3 (requirements) & 68.4 (procedures) into 1 rule.

Commented [14]: "or the commercial..." - existing requirement from 455B.172(6) ; new text added for clarification.

Commented [15]: Old 68.4, Licensing procedures - combined w/ old 68.3 into new 68.2.

Commented [16]: "a person with..." - simplifying.

Commented [17]: New 68.2(2), end of paragraph - Clarification changes.

Commented [18]: "SDMP" - This is the terminology used in 455B.172(5). All references to "waste management plan" have been changed to SDMP.

Commented [19]: New 68.2(3)"a" - Existing text; placed in new paragraph. The SDMP items are in 455B.172(5), but this rule is more specific, so are proposing to keep.

Commented [20]: 68.2(3)"a"(1) - moved up from old "h" for clarity and because it also applies to toilet units.

Commented [21]: "or toilet units" - added as septage can also be collected from toilet units.

Commented [22]: New 68.2(3)"a"(3), "For disposal to..." - existing requirements; added all types of other systems as POTWs aren't the only system that can accept septage & condensed "POTW" from old "b" & "c".

Commented [23]: New 68.2(3)"a"(4), "For septage disposal..." - added new catchphrase & changed old 68.4(2)"d" thru "g" to subparagraphs 1-4 as they all concern land application.

Commented [24]: Old 68.4(2)"h" - moved up to new 68.2(3)"a"(1) for clarity.

Commented [25]: New 68.2(3)"b" - Existing final paragraph of old 68.4(2) was split into new "b" & "c".

Commented [26]: New 68.2(4) - Existing text; clarified & moved from old 68.4(7) so the SDMP requirements are in the same place.

Commented [27]: "to the department and the county" - new text detailing where an SDMP alternation needs to be sent.

Commented [28]: New 68.2(5), License fees - Existing text; split into new "a" & "b". Dept. is authorized to establish these fees in 455B.172(5).

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025

a. Renewal fees. The renewal application fee is \$150 per year for the first registered vehicle and \$50 for each additional vehicle. If anthe applicant intends to land-apply any septage during the year, there will be an additional application fee of \$7 per 1,000 gallons of septage to be land-applied per year. Land application fees shall be based on the previous year's records.

Commented [29]: New 68.2(5)"a", Renewal fees" - added catchphrase text for clarification.

b. New license fees. New license applicants will be charged the following fees:

(1) First time Applicants who propose to land apply shall pay a prorated \$300 annual land application fee until the next June 30 if they propose to land apply.

(2) New license Applicants will be charged fees of \$150 for the first registered vehicle and \$50 for each additional vehicle monthly prorated fees until the next June 30.

Commented [30]: New 68.2(5)"b", New license fees" - added catchphrase text & modified existing text for clarification.

68.4(4)68.2(6) License renewal. In order to remain valid, a commercial septic tank cleaner license must be renewed by June 30 of each year. Renewal applications must be made on a form provided by the department meet the requirements of this rule and must be received by the department or postmarked at least 30 days prior to the expiration date.

Commented [31]: "be made on a..." - clarified text; the use of a department form is already required in new 68.2(2).

68.4(5)68.2(7) Change in Ownership change. Within 30 days of atthe change in ownership of any commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner, the new owner shall furnish the department with the following information:

- Name ofBusiness name and license number;
- Name, address, email address, and telephone number of the new owner; and
- Date of the ownership change in ownership took place; and
- Any change in the SDMPwaste management plan.

The license will transfer with the ownership with no additional fee due until the next renewal date.

Commented [32]: New 68.2(7)"c" & "d" - split old 68.4(5) into two paragraphs.

68.4(6)68.2(8) Change in Address change. Within 30 days of any change in the address or location of a commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaningthe business, information regarding such change must be reported to the department.

Commented [33]: "due until the..." - redundant.

68.4(7) Alteration of waste management plan. An amended waste management plan must be submitted before any new property for land application not listed on the existing plan is used or waste is taken to a publicly operated treatment works not listed on the plan.

Commented [34]: "a commercial septic..." - added clarifying text.

[ARC 0208C, IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

Commented [35]: Old 68.4(7) - moved to new 68.2(4) so the SDMP requirements are in the same place.

567—68.568.3(455B) License Suspension, revocation and denial of license.

68.35(1) Basis for suspension, revocation, and denial. The department may suspend, revoke, or deny a commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner license for any of the following reasons:

- A material misstatement of facts in a license application.
- Failure to provide the adequate license fee.
- Failure to provide and adhere to an approved SDMPwaste management plan.
- Failure to satisfy the obligations of a commercial septic tank cleaner and the requirements of this chapterstandards as provided in rules 567—68.6(455B), 567—68.9(455B), and 567—68.10(455B).
- Failure to pay any fines assessed under 68.35(2).

Commented [36]: "requirements of this chapter..." - simplification of existing text.

68.35(2) Civil penalties. The department may assess civil penalties pursuant to Iowa Code section 455B.172not to exceed \$250 for violations of this rule. Each day that the violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

Commented [37]: "pursuant to Iowa Code..." - changed existing requirement to an Iowa Code reference.

68.35(3) Appeal. A commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner may appeal the suspension, revocation, or denial of a license under the provisions of 567—Chapter 7.

68.35(4) Reinstatement. In the case of a denial, revocation, or suspension pursuant to paragraphs 68.35(1)"b" or "e," the department may immediately reinstate or issue a license after receipt of the requisite fee or fine and confirmation that the commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner is fulfilling the requirements of rules 567—68.46(455B) and 567—68.69(455B). In case of a denial, revocation or suspension pursuant to paragraphs 68.35(1)"a," "c," or "d," the department may reinstate or issue a license no sooner than 60 days after the actiondenial, revocation, or suspension if the department is satisfied that the commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner has corrected the deficiency and will comply with departmental rules in the future.

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025**567—68.46(455B) Licensee and county's obligations.**

68.46(1) Licensee obligations. *Supervision.* The licensee shall:

a. Supervise provide supervision for the removal and disposal of septage from PSDS private sewage disposal systems or waste from toilet units;

b. 68.6(2) Standards. The licensee shall ~~meet~~ the standards established in this chapter for the cleaning of and disposal of septage from PSDS private sewage disposal systems or waste from toilet units; and

c. 68.6(3) Records. The licensee shall Record the location of all ~~maintain records of~~ cleaned PSDS private sewage disposal systems or toilet units ~~cleaned and the location,~~ the method of septage or waste disposal, and the volume of septage or waste disposed of for each trip. Such records shall be maintained for a period of five years and shall be made readily available upon request by an ~~the~~ administrative authority.

[ARC 0208C, IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

567—68.7(455B) 68.4(2) County obligations. The county boards of health shall enforce the standards and licensing requirements ~~contained in this chapter and other referenced rules relating to the cleaning of private sewage disposal systems and disposal of septage from such facilities.~~

Commented [38]: New 68.4, Licensee and county obligations - combined old 68.6 and 68.7 (old county obligations) into 1 rule and reworded, as both rules deal with obligations.

Commented [39]: "related to the cleaning..." - text is redundant.

567—68.58(455B) Application sites and equipment inspections. All land application sites specified on an ~~the~~ SDMP waste management plan shall be inspected annually by a department-approved ~~an agent approved by the department~~ to ensure that the sites meet the requirements for septage disposal and are properly managed. All vehicles, tanks, trucks and related storage and handling facilities for septage shall be inspected annually to ensure compliance with these rules. The department may contract with other entities, such as the ~~local~~ county boards of health ~~department~~ to carry out ~~the~~ inspections. However, the department shall retain concurrent authority to determine inspection requirements.

567—68.69(455B) Standards for commercial cleaning of private sewage disposal systems PSDSs and toilet units.

68.9(1) 68.6(1) Vehicles, tanks, and equipment. For all vehicles, tanks, and equipment used in the commercial cleaning of PSDS private sewage disposal systems and toilet units, the licensee shall:

a. Prevent the dripping, falling, spilling, leaking, or discharging of septage or waste onto roads, rights-of-way, or other public properties;

b. Provide the necessary equipment ~~necessary for to~~ properly cleaning of PSDS private sewage disposal systems or toilet units and to sufficiently agitate and disperse solids, sludge, and scum into the liquid for cleaning;

c. Install pumps and associated piping with watertight connections to prevent leakage;

d. Ensure ~~proper construction and repair of cleaning that equipment can easily be cleaned and is maintained to allow easy cleaning and maintenance~~ in an essentially rust-free and sanitary condition ~~and appearance~~;

e. If septage is to be land-applied, provide a mechanism for properly mixing lime with the septage or a means to incorporate or inject the septage; and

f. Prominently display the license number and name of the commercial septic tank or toilet unit cleaner on the side of all vehicles or tanks in letters and numbers at least three inches high.

68.9(2) Septic tank cleaning. Tanks shall be emptied of all waste. Sludge may be loosened by pumping liquid back into the tank or adding dilution water. The tank ~~does not have to be washed out with fresh water; however, no more than four inches of waste shall be left in the bottom.~~

68.9(3) 68.6(2) Miscellaneous.

a. Any tanks or equipment used for hauling septage or waste ~~from private sewage disposal systems~~ shall not be used;

(1) Used to haul hazardous or toxic wastes as defined in 567—Chapter 131;

(2) Used to haul ~~or other~~ wastes detrimental to land application or wastewater treatment plants;

(3) ~~and shall not be used~~ in a manner that would contaminate a potable water supply; or

(4) Used in a manner that would ~~or~~ endanger the food chain or public health.

b. Pumps and associated piping shall be installed with watertight connections to prevent leakage.

Commented [40]: "and to sufficiently..." - existing requirement; moved from old 68.9(3)"c" so all equipment requirements are together.

Commented [41]: New 68.6(1)"c" - Existing text; moved from old 68.9(3)"b" so all equipment requirements are together.

Commented [42]: New 68.6(1)"f", "Prominently display..." - Existing text; moved from old 68.9(3)"d" & "e" so vehicle requirements are together. Addresses aren't required to be on vehicles per Iowa Code.

Commented [43]: Old 68.9(2) Septic tank cleaning - no longer needed; is a restatement of new 68.6(1)"b", & are other methods for loosening sludge.

Commented [44]: New 68.6(2)"a"(1) to (4) - clarification of existing text.

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025

~~c. Agitation capability for use in cleaning private sewage disposal systems to disperse sludge and seum into the liquid for proper cleaning shall be provided.~~

~~d. All vehicles shall display the license number (except for the year) assigned to the commercial septic tank cleaner with three inch or larger letters and numbers on the side of the tank or vehicle.~~

~~e. The name and address of the license holder shall be prominently displayed on the side of the tank or vehicle in letters at least three inches high.~~

~~bf. A direct connection shall not be made between a potable water source and athe tank or equipment on athe vehicle.~~

Commented [45]: Old 68.9(3) - Moved to equipment part in new 68.6(1)"b" & "c" above, as these are equipment requirements.

Commented [46]: Old 68.9(3)"d" & "e" - Combined & moved to new 68.6(1)"f" above, because it's a requirement for the vehicles & tanks.

567—68.710(455B) Standards for septage and waste disposal. ~~Disposal of sSeptage from PSDSprivate sewage disposal systems and on-farm processing operations and waste from toilet units and holding tanks shall be disposed of~~carried out~~ in accordance with this rule~~the rules established by the department~~.~~

68.710(1) Waste from toilet units and holding tanks shall be disposed of by discharge, with owner approval, to a POTW~~publicly owned treatment works~~ or other department-permitted wastewater disposal~~treatment~~ system with the treatment works owner's approval. Land application of wastes from toilet units or holding tanks is prohibited.

Commented [47]: New 68.7 - added text to clarify existing requirements.

Commented [48]: "with owner approval..." - simplified.

68.710(2) Septage from septic tanks or other types of PSDS~~private sewage disposal systems~~ that normally discharge effluent for further treatment ~~(such as mechanical/aerobic treatment tanks, siphon tanks or distribution boxes)~~ shall be disposed of by utilizing one or more of the following methods:

Commented [49]: "Land app of wastes from..." - adding new text to spell out existing restriction in Iowa Code 455B.172(6).

a. Septage ~~may~~shall be discharged, with system owner approval, to any of the following systems:
(1) ~~—To a POTW~~~~publicly owned treatment works~~ or other department-permitted wastewater disposal~~treatment~~ system with the treatment works owner's approval.

Commented [50]: "(such as..." - example text not needed.

(2) b. Septage shall be discharged to~~To~~ permitted seepage lagoons or seepage drying beds with the seepage system owner's approval.

Commented [51]: New 68.7(2)"a" - Combined all "shall be discharged" text from old 68.10(2)"a", "b", & "c" under one header & changed to "may" because these are the disposal options.

(3) To a permitted sanitary landfill in accordance with 567—Chapters 102 and 103 and the following requirements:

Commented [52]: New 68.7(2)"a"(3) - moved existing text from old 68.10(2)"d" so all discharge options are in one place.

1. Septage shall be stabilized by adding and thoroughly mixing sufficient lime to produce a mixture with a pH of 12.

Commented [53]: New 68.7(2)"a"(3)"1", "- moved from old 68.10(2)"d"(1).

2. A minimum of 30 minutes of contact time shall be provided after mixing the lime with the septage prior to discharging to the landfill.

Commented [54]: New 68.7(2)"a"(3)"2", "- moved from old 68.10(2)"d"(2).

be. Septage from PSDSs and on-farm processing operations ~~may~~shall be land ~~applied~~ when such applications are conducted in accordance with the following requirements:

Commented [55]: New 68.7(2)"b" - expanded to include on-farm (required by Iowa code) & clarify that these are the requirements when land app is the chosen disposal option; was 68.10(2)"c".

(1) Land application rate. The maximum application rate is 30,000 gallons of septage per acre of cropland per 365-day period. The nitrogen application rate shall be no more than is utilized by the crop. A crop capable of using the nitrogen applied must be grown and harvested from the site after application of the maximum annual allocation or, at a minimum, every third year.

Commented [56]: New 68.7(2)"b"(2) - Existing text. Added catchphrase & reorganized so allowed sites are 1st & restricted sites are in 1 spot at the end. Text not changed; just reorganized.

(2) Land application site restrictions. ~~The following site restrictions shall be met when septage is land applied to land:~~

Commented [57]: "The following site..." - sentence not needed; already stated in header ("b").

1. Septage shall not be applied to a lawn or a home garden.

2. Septage shall not be applied to land where there is a bedrock layer or seasonal high water table within 3 feet of the soil surface. Determination of these confining layers may be ascertained by consulting the soil types noted in the county USDA soil surveys.

Commented [58]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"1" - Moved below to new "shall not" subrule 68.7(2)"b"(2)"5", 1st bullet, so all "shall nots" are together.

3. Land application ~~s~~Sites shall have soil pH maintained above 6.0; unless crops prefer soils with lower pH conditions. If the soil pH is below 6.0, ~~it is acceptable to use~~agricultural lime may be used to increase the pH to an acceptable level. Soil pH shall be measured and reported in as part of the annual SDMP~~waste management plan~~.

Commented [59]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"2" - Moved below to new "shall not" subrule 68.7(2)"b"(2)"5", 3rd bullet, so all "shall nots" are together.

4. The septage shall not be applied to ground that has greater than 9 percent slope.

5. If application on frozen or snow-covered ground is necessary, it shall be limited to land areas of less than 5 percent slope and application rates of less than 2,500 gallons per acre per day.

Commented [60]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"4" - Moved below to new "shall not" subrule 68.7(2)"b"(2)"5", 2nd bullet, so all "shall nots" are together.

6. Septage shall not be applied to land that is 35 feet or less from an open waterway. If septage is applied within 200 feet of a stream, lake, sinkhole, or tile line surface intake located downgradient of the land application

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025

site, it shall be injected or applied to the surface and mechanically incorporated into the soil within 48 hours of application.

37. If the septage is land applied to land in a floodplain with a ten-year magnitude ~~subject to flooding more frequently than once in ten years~~, ~~it~~ the septage shall be injected or shall be applied to the surface and mechanically incorporated into the soil within 48 hours. Information on which land is in a floodplain with a ten-year magnitude ~~subject to flooding more frequently than once in ten years~~ is available from the department.

4. Septage shall be land applied in accordance with the separation distances in Table I in 567—paragraph 60.2(2)“c.” If septage is land applied within 200 feet upgradient of a stream, lake, sinkhole, or tile line surface intake, it shall be injected or applied to the surface and mechanically incorporated into the soil within 48 hours of application.

5. Septage shall not be applied to any of the following:

- To a lawn or a home garden;
- To ground that has a slope greater than 9 percent; or
- To land where there is a bedrock layer or seasonal high water table within three feet of the soil surface,

as noted in the county USDA soil surveys.

8. Septage shall not be applied within 750 feet of an occupied residence, except the residence of the owner of the septic tank that was pumped, nor within 500 feet of a well.

(3)9. Land application c Crop harvesting restrictions: After a septage application:

1. ♦ Food crops with harvested parts that touch the septage/soil mixture and are totally above ground shall not be harvested for 14 months ~~after application of domestic septage.~~

2. ♦ Food crops with harvested parts below the land ~~surface of the land~~ shall not be harvested for 38 months ~~after application of domestic septage.~~

3. ♦ Animal feed, fiber, and those food crops with harvested parts that do not touch the soil surface shall not be harvested for 30 days ~~after application of the domestic septage.~~

4. Animals shall not be allowed to graze on the land for 30 days ~~after application of septage.~~

(34) Land application vector attraction reduction (VAR). One of the following VAR ~~vector attraction reduction~~ requirements shall be met when septage is land ~~applied to land:~~

1. Septage may ~~shall~~ be injected below the surface of the land. No significant amount of ~~the~~ septage shall be present on the land surface within one hour ~~of after the septage injection is injected.~~

2. Septage may ~~be applied to the land~~ ~~surface shall be~~ incorporated into the soil within six hours after application to or placement on the land.

3. Septage may ~~shall~~ be stabilized by adding and thoroughly mixing sufficient alkaline material (such as hydrated or quick lime) to produce a mixture with a pH of 12. ~~For example, adding and thoroughly mixing approximately 50 pounds of lime with each 1,000 gallons of septage is usually sufficient to bring the pH to 12 for 30 minutes.~~ A minimum of 30 minutes of contact time shall be provided after mixing the alkaline material ~~lime~~ with the septage prior to ~~applying to land~~ land application. Each container of treated septage shall be monitored for compliance by testing, ~~using a pH meter or litmus paper,~~ two representative samples ~~of the batch of lime-treated domestic septage~~ taken a minimum of 30 minutes apart to verify that the pH remains at 12 or greater for the minimum 30-minute time period.

4. Other stabilization methods may be acceptable if shown to be equivalent to one or more of the methods described in this subparagraph.

(54) Land application records. ~~When septage is applied to land, the p~~Persons who land apply ~~applies the~~ septage shall document ~~develop~~ the following information and ~~shall retain the~~ records at their residence or business ~~information~~ for five years:

1. The location, by either street address or latitude and longitude, of each septage application site; ~~on which septage is applied;~~

2. The number of acres and precise application area in each septage application site; ~~on which septage is applied;~~

3. The gallons of septage applied to each site ~~for each application;~~ ~~time.~~

4. The rate, in gallons per acre, of septage application at each site;

5. The total gallons of septage applied at each site to date for the year;

Commented [61]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"6" - Moved 1st part (35 ft distance) to new Table I in for SDs in Ch 60. Moved 2nd part to to new 68.7(2)"b"(2)"4" below.

Commented [62]: "in a floodplain..." - correctly restating.

Commented [63]: "upgradient" - new term replaces "located downgradient..." in old sentence from 68.10(2)"c"(2)"6".

Commented [64]: New 68.7(2)"b"(2)"4" - Existing text; moved from old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"6"; also placed new separation distances table in Ch 60 as a superscript.

Commented [65]: New 68.8(2)"b"(2)"5" - Combines all "shall not" requirements into one subparagraph.

Commented [66]: "To a lawn..." - moved from old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"1".

Commented [67]: "To ground..." - moved from old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"4".

Commented [68]: "To land where..." - moved from old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"2".

Commented [69]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"8" - Moved to new separation distances table in Ch. 60 (1st part in superscript, 2nd part in Table I).

Commented [70]: New 68.7(2)"b"(3) - New subparagraph for existing land app crop harvesting restriction text; was old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"9".

Commented [71]: Replaces "after application of domestic septage" in listed items below.

Commented [72]: New 68.7(2)"b"(3)"4" - was 2nd half of old 68.10(2)"c"(2)"9", 3rd bullet.

Commented [73]: New 68.7(2)"b"(4) - New subp. for existing land app vector attraction requirements text.

Commented [74]: "may" - replaced "shall" with "may" in new 68.8(2)"b"(4)(1), (2) & (3) as these are options.

Commented [75]: "applied to the..." - redundant.

Commented [76]: "For example..." - examples are not needed.

Commented [77]: "using a pH meter..." - text is not needed; pH measurements are standard.

Commented [78]: "of the batch of..." - replaced by the word "treated" earlier in sentence.

Commented [79]: New 68.7(2)"b"(4)"4" - existing text; moved from old 68.10(2)"c"(5) below as it concerns the stabilization of septage.

Commented [80]: New 68.7(2)"b"(5) - New subparagraph for the existing record requirements text.

Commented [81]: "septage app. site..." - reworded.

Commented [82]: New 68.7(2)"b"(5)"4", "The rate..." - moved up from old 68.10(2)"c"(4)"6" & reworded.

CHAPTER 68 EO10 Final Rule 5/14/2025

~~65. The date and time of seepage application is applied to each site; and-~~

~~6. The rate, in gallons per acre, at which seepage is applied to each site.~~

7. A description of how the VAR ~~vector attraction reduction~~ requirements are met (injection, incorporation, or stabilization).

8. The following certification statement shall be provided with the records when the records are submitted to or requested by the department:

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the pathogen requirements and the vector attraction reduction requirements have been met. I am aware that there are significant penalties for false certification including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

~~(5) Other methods of stabilization may be acceptable if shown to be equivalent to 68.10(2)"c"(3)"3" above.~~

~~d. Seepage shall be discharged (with owner approval) to a permitted sanitary landfill in accordance with 567 Chapters 102 and 103 and the following requirements:~~

~~(1) Seepage shall be stabilized by adding and thoroughly mixing sufficient lime to produce a mixture with a pH of 12.~~

~~(2) A minimum of 30 minutes of contact time shall be provided after mixing the lime with the seepage prior to discharging to the landfill.~~

[ARC 0208C, IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

Commented [83]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(4)(6) - moved up to new 68.7(2)"b"(5)(4).

Commented [84]: "injection..." - added for clarification.

Commented [85]: Old 68.10(2)"c"(5) - moved to the VAR requirements section in new 68.7(2)"b"(4)"4" above.

Commented [86]: Old 68.10(2)"d" - moved to new 68.7(2)"a"(3) so all discharge options are in one place.

567—68.811(455B) Standards for disposal of wastewater from on-farm food processing operations. ~~On-farm food processing wastewater shall be disposed of pursuant to Iowa Code section 455B.172A, carried out by utilizing one or more of the following methods:~~

~~68.11(1) On-farm food processing wastewater shall be discharged to a publicly owned treatment works or other permitted wastewater treatment system with the treatment works owner's approval.~~

~~68.11(2) On-farm food processing wastewater shall be discharged to a subsurface soil absorption system that is in compliance with 567 Chapter 69 and the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Underground Injection Control Program or other applicable regulations.~~

~~68.11(3) On-farm food processing wastewater shall be discharged through a disposal system that meets all of the following:~~

~~a. The disposal system is located on the same site as the on-farm processing operation.~~

~~b. The disposal system is constructed in conformance with a permit issued by the department in accordance with Iowa Code section 455B.183, implemented by 567 Chapter 64.~~

~~c. For a disposal system that discharges wastewater to a water of the United States, the system must be operated in conformance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit issued by the department under Iowa Code section 455B.197.~~

~~68.11(4) Land application.~~

~~a. On-farm food processing wastewater may be land applied if all of the following apply:~~

~~(1) The volume of wastewater produced by the on-farm processing operation is less than 1,500 gallons per day.~~

~~(2) The application rate does not exceed 30,000 gallons per acre per year.~~

~~(3) The application rate does not exceed 1,500 gallons per acre per day.~~

~~b. On-farm food processing wastewater shall be land applied in accordance with 567—68.10(455B).~~

~~c. On-farm food processing operations that meet the requirements for land application in Iowa Code section 455B.172A and 567—68.7(455B) shall not be required to obtain an operation permit as prescribed in 567—6064.3(455B).~~

[ARC 0208C, IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

These rules are intended to implement **Iowa Code section 455B.172 and 455B.172A.**

[Filed emergency 2/1/91—published 2/20/91, effective 3/1/91]

[Filed 5/24/91, Notice 2/20/91—published 6/12/91, effective 7/17/91]

[Filed 7/29/94, Notice 3/16/94—published 8/17/94, effective 9/21/94]

[Filed 9/20/96, Notice 7/17/96—published 10/9/96, effective 11/13/96]

[Filed 3/19/99, Notice 12/30/98—published 4/7/99, effective 5/12/99]

[Filed 8/25/06, Notice 4/12/06—published 9/27/06, effective 11/1/06]

[Filed ARC 0208C (Notice ARC 0046C, IAB 3/21/12), IAB 7/11/12, effective 8/15/12]

Commented [87]: New 68.8, "On-farm food processing wastewater shall be..." - replacing old 68.11(1), (2), (3), & (4) with a reference to 455B.172A, because this text is in the code.

Commented [88]: New 68.9, "On-farm food processing operations that..." - this sentence is being kept as it is not in 455B.172A.