

SEPTIC TANK PUMP-OUT  
DEQ Specifications for No. RB-1

This document specifies terms and conditions that are applicable to all contracts entered into with respect to the *Septic Tank Pump-out* best management practice (BMP) in NPS implementation areas.

A. Description

Maintenance of a conventional or alternative onsite sewage system by having septic tank pumped to remove solids and to inspect septic tank components.

B. Purpose

To maintain the operation and performance of either a conventional or alternative onsite sewage system.

C. Policies and Specifications

1. Cost-share is authorized:
  - i. For the pump-out and removal of solids from the septic tank.
  - ii. For an inspection of the tank lids and baffles. (Use of the [Septic System Inspection Form](#) is encouraged.)
2. A pump-out can occur during routine maintenance of a sewage system. A pump-out can also occur in conjunction with another DEQ-funded residential onsite sewage practice, in which case the pump-out would not be funded as an RB-1 practice; rather, these costs would be included as part of the other practice.
3. Sewage must be handled and transported by a sewage handler having a permit issued by the Virginia Department of Health.
4. The lifespan of this practice is five (5) years. Cost-share is limited to pump-outs that occur no more than once every five years. The period of lifespan starts on January 1 of the calendar year following the year of installation of the practice.
5. Cost-share for an RB-1 is not eligible for participants with systems still under lifespan for a practice for which they have received funding from DEQ. For example, if a system is under lifespan for RB-2, RB-2P, RB-3, RB-3M, RB-4, RB-4P, or RB-5 practice, cost-share funding is not eligible.

D. Rate(s)

The cost-share amount is based upon an average estimated total practice cost of \$400 per practice and will not exceed 50% to 90% of the total eligible cost based on participant income level (based upon verification) in accordance with *Virginia's Nonpoint Source (NPS) Implementation Best Management Practice (BMP) Guidelines*. The cost-share payment for this practice shall not exceed the BMP estimated average total cost-share cost, known as the practice cap, associated with the approved cost-share rate for the participant.

A Grantee will request from DEQ the ability to use either the No Fiscal Stress or Fiscal Stress table (see Table RB-1 below):

**Table RB-1: Septic Tank Pump-out, rates based upon average total practice cost of \$400.**

<b>% of Median Family Income</b>	<b>No Fiscal Stress* Rate</b>	<b>No Fiscal Stress* CS Cap</b>	<b>Fiscal Stress** Rate</b>	<b>Fiscal Stress** CS Cap</b>
<b>&gt; 120% or no income verification</b>	50%	\$200	50%	\$200
<b>100-120%</b>	55%	\$220	65%	\$260
<b>81-100%</b>	60%	\$240	70%	\$280
<b>61-80%</b>	65%	\$260	75%	\$300
<b>40-60%</b>	75%	\$300	85%	\$340
<b>&lt;40%</b>	80%	\$320	90%	\$360

\* Located in locality with No Fiscal Stress (average, below average, or no FS)

\*\* Located in Locality with Fiscal Stress (high or above average FS)

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