

ROY COOPER

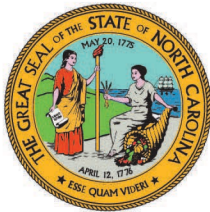
Governor

MARY PENNY KELLEY

Secretary

MICHAEL SCOTT

Director



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

October 4, 2024

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Permitted Septage Management Firms (Pumpers)  
Local Governments and Agencies

**From:** Perry Sugg, Environmental Compliance Branch Head  
NC Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section

**Re:** Septage Management Firm Requirement for Disposal Authorization  
Temporary Waiver for Disposal Authorizations for WWTPs

Hurricane Helene has caused the destruction and disruption of service for multiple municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) in western North Carolina. Due to the immediate need for septage disposal options in this region, as well as limited options for disposal, disposal authorizations from WWTPs as required in 15A NCAC 13B Rule .0834(c)(14) will not be required by the Section for permitted pumpers to properly dispose septage at a WWTP that accepts the septage for disposal. Pumpers will be required to continue to maintain disposal records and logs as required in accordance with 15A NCAC 13B Rule .0836(a).

This waiver applies to permitted septage management firms collecting, pumping, hauling, and disposing septage collected in any of the counties designated as disaster areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency [[FEMA Disaster Declaration for NC - Hurricane Helene](#)] which includes: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. The waiver also applies to the counties of Cherokee, Graham, and Swain.

Permitted septage pumpers should contact the WWTP to determine whether the plants will accept their waste or if there are any WWTP-specific restrictions or other requirements for disposal at that WWTP.

This waiver is effective immediately and will expire on December 31, 2024, unless otherwise extended.

For further assistance, please contact Perry Sugg at (919) 707.8258 or [Perry.Sugg@deq.nc.gov](mailto:Perry.Sugg@deq.nc.gov).



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