

TOWN OF SHERMAN ORDINANCE REGARDING SEPTIC SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Sherman wishes to insure the active enforcement of the State and Town Health Codes regarding disposal of septic waste on a continuing basis in a manner that is fair to property owners and protects the health of its residents and the quality of its waters; and

WHEREAS, the inspection of septic systems on a regular schedule may alert owners to existing or potential problems with their septic systems while the costs to repair and the damage to the septic system are as minimal as possible; and

WHEREAS, development of on-site inspection data can be used to identify health problems, avoid the need for sewer installation, and to educate property owners about proper care and maintenance procedures to follow for septic systems,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED:

Sec. 1. Program. The Town of Sherman hereby enacts a SEPTIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM whereby every property in the town of Sherman within the Candlewood Lake Watershed with a residential or commercial building on it shall have its septic disposal system physically walked-over no less than once every three years. The program shall be administered by the Town Health Department.

Sec. 2. Inspections. Every property in town within the Candlewood Lake Watershed with a residential or commercial building on it shall be physically walked-over by a representative of the Health Department or other individual approved by the Town Health Department for compliance with both the State and Town Health Codes. Properties shall be subject to a septic walk-over inspection no less than once every three (3) years with regards to septic system maintenance.

A property owner can, solely at his or her expense, have a septic walk-over inspection conducted by an individual approved by the Town Health Department to conduct a walk-over of their septic system and submit a completed form provided by the Town Health Department certifying that it is in good working order. Having this submission on file dated within three years of the Town's scheduled walk-over will eliminate that property from the current inspection cycle.

The Town will make available on its website a listing, by month, of the properties to be inspected therefore providing prior notification to residents of the approximate timing of the septic walk-over inspection. In addition, the Town may do a Town-wide mailing informing residents of that year's intended schedule for inspection of septic systems.

Sec. 3. Properties with Violations. Properties with observed septic system Health Code violations shall receive thirty (30) days to take corrective action, such action to include contacting the Town Health Department, making an appointment with a licensed septic installer and commencing actions to correct Health code violations. If corrective action is not commenced within thirty (30) days, the Town Health Department may proceed with regular Health Code enforcement procedure.

Sec. 4. At the conclusion of one-cycle (three years), a committee including the Sherman Board of Selectmen and Sherman's Director of Health will review the effectiveness of the program and consider any necessary changes to ensure that the Town of Sherman "ORDINANCE REGARDING SEPTIC SYSTEM MANAGEMENT" is meeting its intended goals.