

ALABAMA STATE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 420-3-1
ONSITE SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL

420-3-1-.65 Setback And Separation Distances.

(1) The minimum setback distances for EDFs, septic tanks, pump chambers, aerobic pre-treatment devices (including sand filters, biofilters, and ATUs), header lines and similar devices, and various structures and topographic features, are contained in Table 4.

(2) No underground utility service or main, such as a water, electrical, phone, TV, or gas lines may cross over or under an EDF pipe.

(3) No OSS or REDF shall be located in a utility easement for underground equipment.

(4) Setback distances from a natural or man-made drainage system, embankment, or cut may be reduced in accordance with Table 4 and if supporting information is submitted by an engineer with the application to show that the drainage feature will not adversely affect the functioning of the EDF and that effluent will not reach the feature, embankment, or cut.

(5) An effluent line may cross a water line if 18 inches of vertical separation distance is maintained, with the effluent line passing under the water line. When conditions prevent an 18-inch separation from being maintained, or whenever it is necessary for the water line to cross under the effluent line, the water line shall be encased in materials specified in the International Plumbing Code for a distance of at least 5 feet on each side of the crossing.

(6) An effluent line may cross a storm drain culvert if one of the following requirements are met:

(a) Twelve inches of vertical separation distance is maintained.

(b) The effluent line is encased in materials specified in the International Plumbing Code for at least 5 feet on either side of the crossing.

(7) An effluent line may cross under a stream if at least 3 feet of stable cover can be maintained, or if the effluent line is encased in materials specified in the International Plumbing Code for at least 10 feet on either side of the crossing and protected against the normal range of high and low water conditions, including the 100-year flood or wave action. An aerial crossing shall be by ductile iron or steel pipe with mechanical joints. Pipes shall be anchored for at least 10 feet on either side of the crossing.

(8) A Large-Flow System that meets secondary effluent standard shall be required to comply with the minimum horizontal setback distances listed in Table 4. See Table 5 for additional setback requirements.

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