

SECTION 12-2500 SEPTAGE AND SEWAGE LAND APPLICATION REGULATIONS

12-2500.01 Purpose

The purpose and intent of this regulation is to prohibit the land application of septage or sewage in all zone districts in the unincorporated territory of Arapahoe County, while allowing the land application of biosolids when and where authorized by a current and valid permit issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

12-2500.02 (or Chapter 19) Definitions

- A. “Biosolids” means the accumulated treated residual product resulting from a domestic wastewater treatment works. Biosolids does not include grit or screenings from a wastewater treatment works or commercial and industrial septage or on-site wastewater treatment systems regulated under Article 10 of Title 25 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, as amended. Biosolids does not include any septage or sewage as defined in these regulations. Reference CRS 25-8-103(1.4).
- B. “Land application” means the application of septage, sewage, or biosolids to land for agricultural use as a source of macro- or micronutrients, organic matter or other beneficial properties as a soil conditioner for the facilitation of vegetative growth.
- C. “Septage” means a liquid or semisolid that includes normal household wastes, human excreta, and animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution generated from a residential septic tank system. Reference CRS 25-10-103(17). Septage for purposes of the prohibition against the land application of septage specified in these Regulations also includes any residual product from commercial or industrial septic tank systems, and chemical toilets, vaults, and vehicular or trailer holding tanks.
- D. “Septic Tank” means a watertight, accessible, covered receptacle designed and constructed to receive sewage from a building sewer, settle solids from the liquid, digest organic matter, store digested solids through a period of retention, and allow the clarified liquids to discharge to other treatment units for final disposal. Reference CRS 25-10-103(18).
- E. “Sewage” means a combination of liquid wastes that may include chemicals, household wastes, human excreta, animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution, and other solids in suspension or solution, and that are discharged from a dwelling, building, or other establishment. Reference 25-10-103(19).

12-2500.03 Prohibition of the Land Application of Septage or Sewage

- A. The land application of septage or sewage is prohibited in all zone districts in the unincorporated territory of Arapahoe County.
- B. The land application of biosolids for agricultural use within the unincorporated territory of Arapahoe County is permitted in accordance with a current and valid permit issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Division of Water Quality in accordance with Regulation No. 64, Biosolids Regulations, 5 CCR § 1002-64.

12-2500.04 Violations

The County, through its Zoning Administrator, may enforce the provisions of this Article and the terms, requirements and conditions of a biosolids permit through methods included in this Code or through Colorado State Statute or such other methods lawfully adopted by resolution or ordinance.

12-2500.05 Application to Existing Uses

Notwithstanding any provisions of Chapter 11 of the Land Development Code (Nonconformities), the prohibition against the land application of septage and sewage contained in this Section 12-2500 applies to all properties within unincorporated Arapahoe County, including those properties for which septage or sewage has been applied or for which such use was in existence prior to the adoption of this Section 12-2500, including any amendments thereto.

History of Chapter 12 Amendments:

Chapter 12 – Specific Regulations

Revised: Rev 08-30-2013 Delete 12-106 Floodplain Regulations as a correction (12-2000 adopted 2010 as a replacement); Apr 30, 2013 add 12-1900 Oil and Gas Facilities; 01-14-2013 Section 300 Add criteria/definition for Flag Banner/Feather Flag and political signage; 10-25-2012 Update Home Occupation for Daycare; 10-01-2012 Update to GESC Section 200; 05-18-2012 added Community Gardens & Farmers' Markets; 09-30-2011 Planned Sign Program, Day Care Fence, Trash Containers/Dumpsters; 03-15-2011 Medical Marijuana Land Uses; 11-30-2010 Add 12-2000 Floodplain Regulations; 08-30-2012 Add 12-2400 Rural Engineering Standards; 12-2000 Floodplain Regulations Update 12-17-2013; Apr 28, 2015 replace 12-600 Temporary Uses and Temporary Use Permits. Rev 11-10-2015; Add Section 12-2500 Septage and Sewage Land Application Regulations May 24, 2016; 12-1900 Amend Oil and Gas Facilities to Energy Facilities and add small-scale solar facilities provisions, Rev. 11-15-2016; Rev. 01-03-2017: Clean-up and minor amendments to 12-200 Parking Regulations, 12-500 Temporary Structures, 12-600 Temporary Uses and Temporary Use Permits, 12-1300 Lighting Regulations, 12-1400 Landscape Regulations, and 12-1900 Oil and Gas Facilities changed to Energy Facilities and clarify sign posting; Rev. 02-14-2017: Floodplain Regulations effective date amended to 02-17-2017 in 12-2005.02; Sign Regulations updated 6-19-18; Floodplain Regulations effective date amended to 09-28-2018.