

ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY Division of Regulatory Programs PO Box 99, 1133 NYS Route 86 Ray Brook, New York 12977 Telephone (518) 891-4050 www.apa.ny.gov	 Adirondack Park Agency	APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE FROM SHORELINE RESTRICTIONS APPENDIX F
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Appendix F

Construction of a wastewater absorption field within 100 feet of a water body

1. Please evaluate the alternatives listed below. If any of the following alternatives could meet the applicant's objectives, please contact the Agency before completing the remainder of this application because a variance may not be required. If the alternatives listed below are not feasible, please provide a narrative describing why and include any supporting documentation:

For proposals involving new or expanded on-site wastewater treatment systems, please evaluate ways to make the on-site wastewater treatment system meet required setbacks, which may include:

- a. evaluating the feasibility and suitability of all areas on the project site for installation of an absorption field more than 100 feet from a waterbody;
- b. obtaining an easement or other agreement on an adjacent lot for the location of an absorption field that meets required horizontal setbacks;
- c. relocating any proposed development, including any single family dwelling and related infrastructure, so that the absorption field meets required setbacks; or
- d. reducing the design capacity of the on-site wastewater treatment system thereby reducing the size of the absorption field so that the system meets required setbacks.

For replacement of on-site wastewater treatment systems already within 100 feet of a waterbody:

- a. Comply with § 575.7(c) of APA regulations, including all of the following criteria:
 - i. the absorption field is in conformance with the setback requirements to the greatest extent possible, and in any case, no closer to the mean high water mark;
 - ii. the replacement on-site wastewater treatment system is not being expanded to meet an actual or potential occupancy increase; and

- iii. the replacement system will provide enhanced treatment over the lawfully existing system as determined by the Agency through evaluation of plans prepared by a licensed design professional.
2. Please provide a detailed design report and plans prepared by a NYS licensed or registered design professional which include deep-hole soils test pit logs, percolation tests, number of bedrooms, site slopes, and other relevant design details. For additional information, please refer to the Agency's publication "Minimum Requirements for Engineering Plans for On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems," available at https://www.apa.ny.gov/Documents/Guidelines/OnSite_Wastewater.pdf.
3. Attach a site plan map prepared by a qualified professional (NYS licensed surveyor, engineer, architect, etc.) and clearly labeled with the scale, north arrow, date of preparation, and name of preparer. Draw the map to an appropriate engineer's scale between 1" = 10' and 1" = 50' to show the entire variance site. Depict and label the following on the plan, as applicable:
 - a. property boundary lines, including dimensions of each line, and any applicable local setbacks from roads, water bodies, property lines, etc.;
 - b. existing structures (single family dwellings, mobile homes, sheds, docks, decks, boathouses, etc.), including location and size;
 - c. APA land use areas;
 - d. mean high water mark of any lake, pond, or navigable river or stream (to be determined or verified by Agency staff);
 - e. centerline of all non-navigable streams, including intermittent streams;
 - f. wetlands as delineated in the field by Agency staff or a qualified wetlands biologist;
 - g. topography within 100 feet of the dwelling (minimum 10-foot field-verified contour intervals);
 - h. existing areas of steep slopes (greater than 15%) within 100 feet of the dwelling;
 - i. slope at the proposed absorption field area;
 - j. existing and proposed on-site wastewater treatment system components (e.g., septic tank, pump station – if necessary, distribution box, absorption field)
 - k. On-site and neighboring well supplies within 200 feet of the proposed absorption field.
 - l. Deep-hole test pit and percolation test locations;
 - m. For new on-site wastewater treatment systems, please depict a 100 percent absorption field replacement area;
 - n. existing and proposed paved and unpaved roads, driveways, and parking areas, including locations, dimensions, and construction materials;
 - o. existing areas of vegetation and cover types (fields, woodlands, shrub areas, lawns, etc.);
 - p. proposed areas of vegetative clearing; and
 - q. proposed erosion and sediment control measures such as plantings, sediment basins, silt fence, and straw bales.

4. Variance Justification:

Minimization:

- a. Describe how the on-site wastewater treatment system is designed, sized and constructed to minimize impacts to Park resources.

Potential Impacts:

- b. Describe the extent to which the variance, if granted, would create impacts to the natural, scenic, open space, or other resources of the Park. Describe and provide photographs depicting the existing character of the waterbody on the variance site. Describe how any vegetative clearing required for the construction of the on-site wastewater treatment system could change the character of the shoreline in this area.
- c. Describe any potential impacts that the variance, if granted, would cause to surface water and groundwater quality. Also describe how any new or enhanced wastewater treatment system could improve groundwater or surface water quality over existing conditions.
- d. Describe any other effects, such as grading and groundwater water quality impacts that the variance, if granted, would have on adjoining and nearby properties. Provide supporting facts and documentation as appropriate.

Variance Site History:

- e. Describe how the need for a variance arose. This may involve the history of the variance site, including the date any existing wastewater treatment system was first installed

Adverse Consequences:

- f. Describe any adverse consequences that would result from denial of the variance.