

## Non-Liquid Disposal Systems

### PURPOSE

This interpretation is intended to provide guidance related to installations of Non-Liquid Disposal Systems.

### DISCUSSION

For the purposes of this Interpretation, a non-liquid disposal system is entirely within the scope of a building system and is not a:

- plumbing system;
- water-closet;
- plumbing fixture; or
- chemical toilet.

A non-liquid disposal system may function as an acceptable means for the disposal of human waste where there is an absence of a water supply.

In addition to a building permit for the installation of the non-liquid disposal system, other permits may be required. There may be plumbing, electrical, ventilation or fuel-fired installation as part of the non-liquid system. There may be special plumbing fixtures that use a minimal amount of water and dispose human waste into a central non-liquid disposal system. Such plumbing fixture would require the applicable plumbing permit.

Certifications may include, but not limited to:

NSF® Standard-41 and NSF/ANSI 41: Non-Liquid Systems

### CODE REFERENCES

Sentences 3.7.2.1.(1) and 3.7.2.2. states:

#### 3.7.2.1. Plumbing and Drainage Systems

1) Except as permitted in Sentence (2), if the installation of a *sanitary drainage system* is not possible because of the absence of a water supply, sanitary privies complying with the Private Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation made pursuant to the Safety Codes Act, chemical closets or other means for the disposal of human waste shall be provided.

#### 3.7.2.2. Water Closets

1) Except as permitted by Sentence (4), water closets shall be provided for each sex assuming that the *occupant load* is equally divided between males and females, unless the proportion of each sex expected in the *building* can be determined with reasonable accuracy. (See Appendix A.)

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to Division B of the Alberta Building Code 2014.

Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by  
the Provincial Building Administrator

[Original Signed]  
Paul Chang

Alberta  
Government

Sentences 7.1.2.1.(1), 7.1.3.1.(1) and 7.1.3.2.(1) states:

**7.1.2.1. Conformance with Regulations**

1) Every *plumbing system* and *private sewage disposal system* shall be designed and installed in conformance with the Plumbing Code Regulation and Private Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation made pursuant to the Safety Codes Act.

**7.1.3. Required Facilities**

**7.1.3.1. All Buildings Except Dwelling Units**

1) *Buildings* shall be equipped with plumbing facilities as required in Subsection 3.7.2. and Article 3.8.2.3.

**7.1.3.2. Dwelling Units**

1) *Dwelling units* shall be equipped with plumbing facilities as required in Section 9.31.

Sentences 9.31.4.1.(1) and 9.31.5.2.(1) states:

**9.31.4.1. Required Fixtures**

1) A kitchen sink, lavatory, bathtub or shower, and water closet shall be provided for every *dwelling unit* where a piped water supply is available.

**9.31.5.2. Building Sewer**

1) Wastes from every plumbing fixture shall be piped to the *building sewer*.

**APPLICATION**

This interpretation applies in cases,

- of the absence of a water supply;
- where used in addition to the minimum number of required water closets where there is a water supply and sanitary drainage system.

**INTERPRETATION**

1. Non-liquid disposal systems which may include composting toilets, composting systems, incinerating toilets and incinerating systems is considered as other means for the disposal of human waste.
2. The owner is responsible to ensure the non-liquid disposal system is acceptable to the Building AHJ and appropriate municipal officials for installation and or waste disposal.
3. The owner is responsible to contact Alberta Environment and Alberta Health Services for additional requirements regarding the disposal of the waste products.
4. Either specific engineering or 3rd party certification for the non-liquid disposal system may be an acceptable means to provide assurance the product or system will perform as intended.
5. Applicable permits: a building permit is required; additionally plumbing, gas or electrical permits may also be required.

**This INTERPRETATION is applicable throughout the province of Alberta.**