



Septage Screening Prior to Land Application

Rule effective July 22, 2023; 180-day transition period (compliance date: January 18, 2024)

For the full text of regulatory criteria, please see 6 NYCRR Part 361-2.3(b)(4).



*The 2023 regulatory updates to Part 361-2 include a new requirement for the **screening of septage** prior to land application.*

Part 361-2.3(b)(4)(ii)

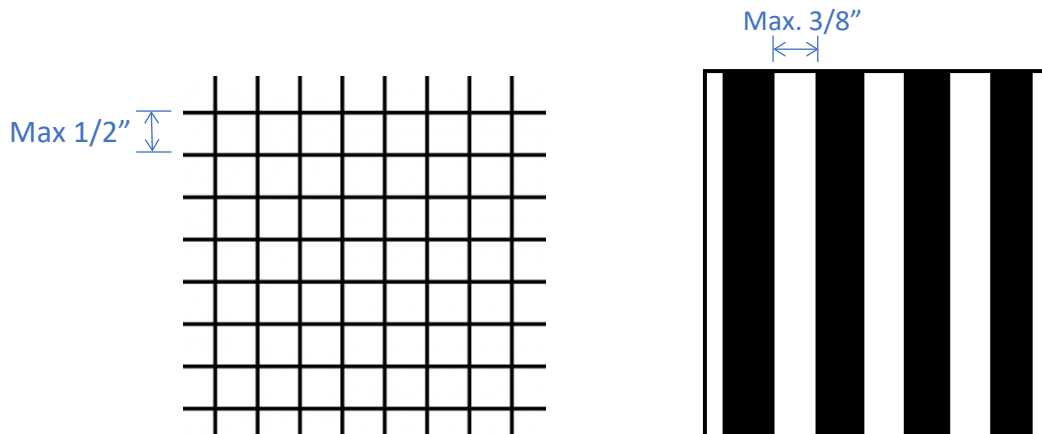
“...prior to land application, the **septage is screened to remove visible nondegradable debris** such as plastics, etc., and the larger nondegradable debris is disposed in a landfill or by other means approved by the department”

Who does this apply to?

Registered land application facilities (under Part 361-2.3(b)(4)) land applying septage from a transporter using no more than two vehicles at any one time for collection related to land application, or for the residuals from a composting toilet (liquid and solids) or source separated urine.

Screening Technique Suggestions

To remove visible debris, a screen no greater than 1/2 inch mesh, or slates separated by a gap no greater than 3/8 inch, should be used.



Screening Equipment

Land applicators may use any screening mechanism that is best suited for their operation. Location options for screening include screening at the site where the septage is being collected, screening out the back of the vehicle during application, or screening using a tank setup. During the Registration process, the method of screening must be specified. The collected screenings must be disposed at a facility permitted to accept such wastes, such as a municipal waste landfill.

There are commercial portable screening units available. Transporters can fabricate their own truck mounted or other type of screening unit, but it must be able to operate properly. Regardless of the screening device used, it must be operated so the septage is applied uniformly and at agronomic rates, and no debris is spread on the land application site.

Examples (source: Montana DEQ Septic Pumper Guide)



References

Michigan: [Guidance Manual for the Land Application of Septage Waste](#)

Montana: [Counties Guide for Approving Septage land Application Sites](#)

Montana: [Septic Pumper Guide](#)