



Law Changes

Dear Septic System Evaluators,

The Board of Septic System Evaluators would like to inform you about important changes in the law that affect septic system evaluations for waterfront properties.

Effective September 1, 2024, House Bill 1113 updates RSA 485 A:39, **requiring buyers to hire a state-licensed septic system evaluator prior to the transfer of any waterfront property if the system is within 250 feet of a waterbody.** For systems without state approvals or approvals dated before September 1, 1989, a state-permitted septic designer must also be hired to assess whether the effluent disposal area is failing.

Key points:

- If the system shows signs of failure, it must be replaced within 180 days of the property transfer.
- Buyers can accept an evaluation prepared for the seller, but they are not obligated to do so, potentially avoiding redundant evaluations.
- These changes aim to provide better protection for our waterways by ensuring that septic systems are functioning properly, preventing pollution and health risks.

For more detailed information, please refer to the following resources:

- [NH DES Fact Sheet](#)
- [NH Realtors Informational Page](#)

Thank you,

The Office of Professional Licensure and Certification



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