

*Holding
Tanks*

*Page 165
May 3-77*

ORDINANCE NO. 22

HOLDING TANK ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF BUFFALO TOWNSHIP, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING PROVISIONS FOR INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF HOLDING TANKS UNDER THE SEWAGE FACILITIES ACT; PROVIDING RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF PROPERTY OWNERS; PROVIDING PENALTIES IN CASE OF VIOLATION.

Be it enacted and ordained by the Board of Supervisors of Buffalo Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted and ordained as follows:

Section 1 - Purposes: The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish procedures for the use and maintenance of holding tanks designed to receive and retain sewage whether from residential or commercial uses and it is hereby declared that the enactment of this Ordinance is necessary for the protection, benefit and preservation of the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of this municipality.

Section 2 - Definitions: Unless the context specifically and clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this Ordinance shall be as follows:

A. "Authority" shall mean the Board of Supervisors of Buffalo Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

B. "Holding Tank" means a watertight receptacle which receives and retains sewage and is designed and constructed to facilitate ultimate disposal of the sewage at another site. Holding tanks include but are not limited to the following:

1. "Chemical Toilet" which is a toilet using chemicals that discharge to a holding tank.

2. "Retention Tank" which is a holding tank where sewage is conveyed to it by a water carrying system.

3. "Vault Pit Privy" which is a holding tank designed to receive sewage where water under pressure is not available.

C. "Improved Property" shall mean any property within the Township upon which there is erected a structure intended for continuous or periodic habitation, occupancy or use by human beings or animals and from which structure sewage shall or may be discharged.

D. "Owner" shall mean any person vested with ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial, of any property located in the Township.

E. "Person" shall mean any individual, partnership, company, association, corporation or other group or entity.

F. "Sewage" shall mean any substance that contains any of the waste products or excrement or other discharge from the bodies of human beings or animals and any noxious or deleterious substance being harmful or inimical to the public health, or to animal or aquatic life or to the use of water for domestic water supply or for recreation.

G. "Municipality" shall mean Buffalo Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

Section 3 - Rights and Privileges Granted: That the

Authority is hereby authorized and empowered to undertake within the Township the control and methods of holding tank sewage disposal and the collection and transportation thereof.

Section 4 - Rules and Regulations: That the Authority is hereby authorized and empowered to adopt such rules and regulations concerning sewage which it may deem necessary from time to time to effect the purposes herein.

Section 5 - Rules and Regulations to be in Conformity with Applicable Law: All such rules and regulations adopted by the Authority shall be in conformity with the provisions herein, all other Ordinances of the Township, and all applicable laws, and applicable rules and regulations of administrative agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 6 - Rates and Charges: The Authority shall have the right and power to fix, alter, charge and collect rates, assessments, and other charges in the area served by its facilities at reasonable and uniform rates as authorized by applicable law.

Section 7 - Exclusiveness of Rights and Privileges: The collection and transportation of all sewage from any improved property utilizing a holding tank shall be done solely by or under the direction and control of the Authority, and the disposal thereof shall be made only at such site or sites as may be approved by the Department of Environmental Resources of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 8 - Duties of Improved Property Owner: The owner of an improved property that utilizes a holding tank shall:

A. Maintain the holding tank in conformance with this or any Ordinance of this Township, the provisions of any applicable law, and the rules and regulations of the Authority and any administrative agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

7.
B. Permit only the Authority or its agent to collect, transport, and dispose of the contents therein.

Section 9 - Violations: Any person who violates any provisions of Section 8 shall, upon conviction thereof by summary proceedings, be sentenced to pay a fine or penalty of not less than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars and not more than Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars and costs, and in default of said fine or penalty and costs to undergo imprisonment in the County Prison for a period not in excess of thirty (30) days.

Section 10 - Abatement of Nuisances: In addition to any other remedies provided in this Ordinance, any violation of Section 8 above shall constitute a nuisance and shall be abated by the municipality or the Authority by either seeking appropriate equitable or legal relief from a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 11 - Repeal: All Ordinances or resolutions or parts of Ordinances or resolutions, insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 12 - Severability: If any sentence, clause, section or part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid such unconstitutionality, illegality or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections, or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as the intent of the Board of Supervisors of Buffalo Township, that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included herein.

Section 13 - Effective Date: This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after its adoption.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED into an Ordinance this
3rd day of May, 1977, by the Board of
Supervisors of Buffalo Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania,
in lawful session duly assembled.

BUFFALO TOWNSHIP

Charles S. Mowbray

ATTEST:

Forest B. Clarke
Secretary

THOMAS J. TERPUTAC, ESQ.
SOLICITOR
63 South Main Street
Washington, Pennsylvania 15301