



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Resource Protection – Title 5 Permitting

BRP WP62

BRP WP 62a Determination of Acceptability for the Use of Septic System Additives or Soil Absorption System Conditioners/Restoratives

BRP.WP 62b Approval of Septic Tank Tee Filters

BRP WP 62c Approval of Grease removal devices

Instructions and Supporting Materials

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Introduction

MassDEP *Permit Applications*, as well as *Instructions & Support Materials*, are available for download from the MassDEP Web site at mass.gov/dep in two file formats: Microsoft Word™ and Adobe Acrobat PDF™.

Instructions & Support Materials provide guidance on how to prepare a permit application.

These *Permit Applications*, supporting documents, and the fee payment (if applicable) must now be submitted through the [ePLACE Portal](#). See ePLACE step-by-step instructions on the mass.gov page for this application.



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Permit Fact Sheet

1. What is the purpose of this determination or approval?

This determination is necessary to ensure that the disposal of sanitary sewage through the use of an on-site subsurface sewage disposal system is performed in an environmentally acceptable manner. This determination is required for the use of any septic system additive or soil absorption system conditioner/restorative. These products are physical, chemical, or biological treatment processes. This determination is also required for the use of any septic tank effluent tee filter or grease removal device.

For septic system additives, conditioners and restoratives, the MassDEP review will focus solely on preventing harm to the systems and the environment, *not* on the efficacy (or lack thereof), of the product. This review is designed to protect the public health, welfare, and the environment through the control of pollutant discharges onto or into the ground.

For septic tank effluent tee filters the MassDEP review requires that, at a minimum, the proposed tee filter meets the applicable Title 5 requirements and criteria of 310 CMR 15.227 Placement and Construction of Tees.

For grease removal devices, the MassDEP review requires that, at a minimum, the proposed grease removal device meets the applicable Title 5 requirements and criteria of 310 CMR 15.230.

Statutory authority for this permit is stated in MGL Chapter 21A Section 13. Regulatory authority for this permit is stated in 310 CMR 15.000.

2. Who must apply?

Any person, as defined in 310 CMR 15.002, proposing the use of any septic system additive, soil absorption system conditioner/restorative is required to obtain prior written approval from MassDEP in accordance with 310 CMR 15.027 & 15.028.

Developers of alternative devices for the septic tank effluent tee filter seeking approval for widespread use of device, not previously approved by MassDEP

Developers of alternative devices for the removal of grease seeking approval for widespread use of a device, not previously approved by MassDEP. Grease removal devices located within a building as part of the internal plumbing do not require this permit, but must conform to requirements of the Massachusetts State Plumbing Code, 248 CMR 2.00.

If this category does not apply to you, please be advised this is not the only permit category for Title 5 systems. Please consult regulations 310 CMR 4.00, 310 CMR 15.00, 314 CMR 4.00 and 5.00 to determine whether another category may apply to you.



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3. What other requirements should be considered when applying for this variance?

a) What prerequisites should be considered before applying?

- Studies detailing any previous use of the additive, conditioner/restorative or effluent tee filter should be submitted to the MassDEP for review.
- Certain additives, conditioner/restoratives, effluent tee filters, and grease removal devices may have been previously approved by MassDEP. For a list of those approved, please visit the MassDEP Web site: <http://mass.gov/dep>

b) What concurrent applications are related to this determination?

- Local Board of Health regulations may apply.

Note: This information about additional requirements are intended to serve as a guide to the applicant. It does not necessarily include **all** additional requirements.

Other variances are granted by the local approving authority and/or MassDEP pursuant to 310 CMR 15.000. Consult the guidance for other variances under BRP WP 59b and BRP WP 59c. These other variances are not included in this category.

4. What is the application fee?

The application fee is \$1140.

5. Where should the application be sent?

The application must be submitted through ePLACE, located here: <https://eplace.eea.mass.gov/citizenaccess>

Additional visual ePLACE step-by-step instructions to assist in submitting your application are available at: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/wp-62-septic-system-additives-effluent-tee-filters-grease-removal-devices>

- Log into the ePLACE Portal at: <https://eplace.eea.mass.gov/citizenaccess> and create an account.
- Once logged in, click on the large blue button on the right, "File an Online Application".
- Read and agree to the disclaimer. Click "Continue".
- To find this application, click on "Apply for DEP Authorization – Water Pollution Wastewater (WP)", and check on WP 62, and click "Continue Application".
- Follow instructions on each screen and click "Continue Application" to move to the next step. The WP 62 application and supporting forms are to be completed in MS Word™ or Acrobat Adobe PDF™ and attached in the Documents section.



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- Note that you can return to an application provided you select “Save and Return Later”. Once you submit an application you can no longer upload documents without approval from MassDEP personnel.
- At the end of the application steps, the ePLACE system will take you directly to a screen where you can pay the fee, if applicable. Complete payment information in ePLACE.
- Once an application has been submitted, you will receive an email that will provide you the record number.
- From the “My Records” button, you will be able to view the status of your application through the review and approval processes.

Important Contacts

- For technical assistance regarding online filing, contact the ePLACE Help Desk Team at (844) 733-7522 or ePLACE_helpdesk@mass.gov.
- To see a copy of your application after submittal, also see: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/EEA/PublicApp>.

6. Where can I get a copy of the timelines?

The timelines are available on the MassDEP Website: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/massdep-fees-timelines>

7. What is the annual compliance fee?

There is no annual compliance fee for this category.

8. How long is this determination or approval in effect?

These determinations and approvals remain valid as long as the system and facility served remain unchanged, or until MassDEP revokes or modifies the determination or approval.

9. How can I avoid the most common mistakes made in applying?

- a. Review the application to be sure all questions are answered correctly. The submitted application must have an original signature in ink.
- b. Include all available data, studies, and formal approvals and denials from other jurisdictions.
- c. Submit the application & documents listed above and pay fee through ePLACE, <https://eplace.eea.mass.gov/citizenaccess>.

10. What are the regulations that apply? Where can I get copies?

These regulations include, but are not limited to:

- a. Title 5 Regulations, 310 CMR 15.000.
- b. Timely Action Schedule and Fee Provisions, 310 CMR 4.00.

These may be purchased at:



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State House Bookstore
Room 116
Boston, MA 02133
617-727-2834

State Bookstore
436 Dwight Street, Room 102
Springfield, MA 01103
413-784-1376

MassDEP Regulations also are available at MassDEP's Web site: <http://mass.gov/dep>



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Application Completeness Checklist

A MassDEP application form for the permit category BRP WP 62 has been completed. The following information has been provided:

- Name and address of applicant/owner.
- All available data, studies, and approvals and denials from other jurisdictions.
- Studies detailing previous use of the additive, conditioner/restorative, effluent tee filter, or grease removal devices are attached

To submit the application package:

- Submit the application and documents listed above through ePLACE, <https://eplace.eea.mass.gov/citizenaccess>
- Pay fee: \$1140 (if applicable).

You can pay online in ePLACE or pay by mail in the form of a check or money order made payable to *Commonwealth of Massachusetts* (please follow email instructions provided to you once your application is submitted).