

Chapter 391

(House Bill 1045)

AN ACT concerning

On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems – Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) Technology – Regulations

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment, on or before a certain date ~~and for a certain purpose, to adopt regulations that,~~ to propose certain regulations that encourage the use of certain treatment technologies in on-site sewage disposal systems for nonresidential uses; requiring certain regulations ~~adopted~~ proposed by the Department to update certain evaluation criteria and increase a certain hydraulic loading rate that may be considered for a certain nonresidential system; and generally relating to on-site sewage disposal systems for nonresidential uses.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) On or before ~~October 1, 2018~~ January 1, 2019, the Department of the Environment shall ~~adopt~~ propose regulations that encourage the use ~~in on-site sewage disposal systems~~ of permeable micro- or ultra-filtration membrane bioreactor (MBR) or other treatment technology technologies in on-site sewage disposal systems for nonresidential uses that:

(1) ~~is~~ meet the Department's guidelines for use of class IV reclaimed water;
and

(2) are more effective than the Best Available Technology for Removal of Nitrogen (BAT) approved by the Department; ~~and~~

~~(2) uses permeable micro- or ultra-filtration membrane technology for solids separation instead of gravity separation/sedimentation or conventional media filtration systems such as sand or cloth.~~

(b) The regulations required under subsection (a) of this section shall:

(1) update the evaluation criteria used in reviewing the design of an on-site sewage disposal system for a nonresidential use and determining whether a sewage disposal area is appropriately sized; and

(2) increase the maximum hydraulic loading rate that may be considered to 2.5 gallons per day per square foot (gpd/ft²) for a nonresidential system using MBR technology and adjusted based on site-specific factors, including nutrient reduction requirements, percolation rates, and other site conditions and constraints.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2017.