

HOUSE BILL 642

L5

3lr0511

By: **Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2013

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Sewage Leaks – Posting**
3 **Requirements**

4 **MC/PG 114–13**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission to post
6 warning signs at each public access point to a waterway that is contaminated by
7 a sewage leak within a certain time period after a leak is reported under certain
8 circumstances; requiring the Commission to post certain warning signs
9 downstream from a certain leak in accordance with certain regulations;
10 providing that the Commission is not required to post certain warning signs
11 upstream from a certain leak; requiring the Commission to adopt regulations to
12 implement this Act; defining a certain term; and generally relating to posting
13 requirements about sewage leaks of the Washington Suburban Sanitary
14 Commission.

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Public Utilities

17 Section 24–202 to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 2. Sewer Cleaning
18 and Sewage Leaks”

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
22 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



Article – Public Utilities

Subtitle 2. Sewer Cleaning AND SEWAGE LEAKS.

24-202.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PUBLIC ACCESS POINT” INCLUDES A PARKING LOT, PLAYGROUND, PICNIC AREA, BOAT LAUNCHING RAMP, OR PARK.

(B) ~~THE~~ WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER A LEAK IS REPORTED, THE COMMISSION SHALL POST WARNING SIGNS AT EACH PUBLIC ACCESS POINT TO A WATERWAY THAT BECOMES CONTAMINATED BY A LEAK IN A SANITARY SEWER LINE, PIPE, OR FIXTURE THAT IS CONNECTED TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM OF THE COMMISSION.

(C) A WARNING SIGN POSTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

(1) THE SOURCE AND DATE OF DISCOVERY OF THE LEAK; AND

(2) THE CONTACT INFORMATION, INCLUDING A TELEPHONE NUMBER, OF THE COMMISSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO USE FOR OBTAINING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

(D) THE COMMISSION:

(1) SHALL POST THE WARNING SIGNS DOWNSTREAM FROM THE LEAK IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

(2) IS NOT REQUIRED TO POST ANY WARNING SIGN UPSTREAM FROM A LEAK.

(E) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, INCLUDING REGULATIONS CONCERNING:

(1) THE MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM THE SOURCE OF A LEAK WITHIN WHICH WARNING SIGNS MUST BE POSTED; AND

(2) THE FORM AND CONTENT OF THE WARNING SIGNS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.