

Chapter 628

(House Bill 642)

AN ACT concerning

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Sewage Leaks – Posting Requirements

MC/PG 114–13

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

BY adding to

Article – Public Utilities

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

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

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.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2013.