

4.10 Floating Vault Toilets and Boat or Vessel Sewage Disposal

Revision: May 21, 2015

Installer registration permit: Property owner or standard and basic

Licensed professional engineer required: No

4.10.1 Description

4.10.1.1 *Floating Vault Toilet Description*

Vault toilets and boat/vessel dump stations are necessary wastewater disposal facilities at recreational sites around water bodies. Many boats and vessels do not contain onboard toilets making it necessary to provide toilet facilities at recreation sites around water bodies such as boat ramps, docks, and campgrounds. The facilities provided most often are vault toilets. Due to the remoteness of some recreation sites, installation of a standard vault privy (section 4.29) may not be possible. Additionally, some recreational water bodies may be large enough that convenient use of a standard vault privy on shore is not feasible. To preserve the quality and beneficial uses of the waters of the state of Idaho it is preferable to have toilet facilities available at recreational areas that attract a large number of users. To accomplish this at recreational water sites, floating toilet facilities may be used for temporary storage of sewage.

4.10.1.2 *Boat or Vessel Sewage Disposal Description*

Some boats and vessels do contain onboard toilet facilities that are classified as Type I, II, and III marine sanitation devices (MSD) or portable toilets. Type I and II MSD may have the ability to treat and discharge wastewater from the boat or vessel into the surrounding waters while a Type III MSD is certified to a no-discharge standard. Portable toilets are sewage collection devices that are self-contained and removable from a boat or vessel. Regardless of a boat or vessel's MSD type or use of portable toilets, discharge of wastewater or sewage (treated or untreated) from a boat or vessel into waters of the state of Idaho is illegal per IDAPA 58.01.02.080. The rule requires that any wastewater or sewage generated and stored on a boat or vessel must be disposed of at an approved facility (e.g., recreational vehicle dump station, septic system, or public system).

4.10.2 Approval Conditions

1. Wastewater generated on a boat or vessel and held in an MSD may be removed while the boat remains in the water by the following:
 - a. Dockside sewage connection to an approved municipal treatment system or an approved subsurface sewage disposal system sized for this use. Dockside sewage collection systems shall be reviewed and approved by DEQ.
 - b. Mobile boat pump-out service. Pump-out services constructed on a boat, vessel, or vehicle that is used to transport sewage or wastewater for disposal must be permitted by a health district (IDAPA 58.01.15.003). Small mobile pump stations that are nonmotorized and only used to pump boat holding tanks at a dock or marina and used to transport the contents to an approved disposal facility located near the dock or marina do not need to be permitted by a health district.