COMPOSTING TOILET REGULATION

BOARD OF HEALTH

TOWN OF BOURNE

Effective date March 7, 1997

Pursuant to Chapter 111, Section 31 of Massachusetts General Laws, the Bourne Board of Health, at its regular meeting on February 26, 1997 voted to adopt the following:

Having determined that the travel of human enteroviruses from subsurface wastewater disposal systems, in areas of sandy unconsolidated soils with a shallow aquifer, have been detected at lateral distances of 67.05 meters (220') and at aquifer depths of 18 meters (59') (Vaughn J.M., E.F. Landry and M.Z. Thomas. 1983 Entrainment of viruses from septic tank leach fields through a shallow, sandy soil aquifer. Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 45: 1474-1480), that in secondary and tertiary effluent applied to sandy unconsolidated soils, viruses have been detected in groundwater where the recharge areas were located less than 35' above the aquifer, and that lateral entrainment of viruses to 47.5 meters (149') was noted at one site (Vaughn J.M., E.F. Landry, L.J. Baranosky, C.A. Beckwith, M.C. Dahl, N.C. Delihas. 1978 Survey of human virus occurrence in wastewater recharge groundwater on Long Island. Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 36: 4751), that containment transport rates in glacial outwash soils may be up to 2.3 feet per day (LeBlanc-WSGC report 82.274), and that Volume 30 Numbers 6, pages 1877-1878 of the Environmental Science and Technology, states, "further work is needed to access the degree to which other more resistant microbial agents (both viruses and bacteria) are transported through coastal watersheds of all types..... Humus/Composting Toilets are certified for non-remedial use, within the Town of Bourne, subject to the conditions set forth in 310 CMR 15.289 (3)(a), where a system in full compliance with 310 CMR 15.000, and local Board of Health regulations, could be otherwise installed on the site.