

**[MUNTINLUPA CITY ORDINANCE NO. 15-118,
April 05, 2015]**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SEPTAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
IN THE CITY OF MUNTINLUPA**

Sponsored by: *Hon. Coun. Louisito A. Arciaga*
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 Jr.
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WHEREAS, mandated by the **New Clean Water Act of 2004 (R.A. 9275)** and other existing laws and ordinances related directly or indirectly to wastewater and septage management, the City of Muntinlupa, as a highly urbanized city, is establishing a septage management system;

WHEREAS, untreated wastewater affects health by spreading diseases, making water unfit for human consumption and other uses, contaminating groundwater, threatening biodiversity, and reducing the quality of life of the citizens;

WHEREAS, most of the residence, business and institutions in Muntinlupa City use septic tanks for wastewater treatment and disposal;

WHEREAS, most of septic tank in the city are not properly designed, constructed or regularly deslodged;

WHEREAS, groundwater is the city's water source;

WHEREAS, the construction and operation of a sewerage network and treatment system is beyond the financial capacity of the city government at this time;

WHEREAS, the city is committed to the improvement, maintenance and conservation of the ecosystem and the protection of public health;

WHEREAS, Sections 7 of the Clear Water Act (R.A.9275) provides, among others, that each LGU may raise funds to subsidize necessary expenses for the operation and maintenance of sewerage treatment or septage facilities servicing their area of jurisdiction through local property taxes and enforcement of a service fee system;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, AS IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED, by the 7th Sangguniang Panlungsod of Muntinlupa in session assembled that:

SECTION 1. *Title.* This Ordinance shall be known as an ordinance Establishing Septage Management System in the City of Muntinlupa.

SECTION 2. *Policies.* It shall be the policy of the City of Muntinlupa to share the responsibility, the management and improvement of water quality within their territorial jurisdiction. To meet these objectives, the City shall implement measures to prevent and control water pollution to promote public health.

SECTION 3. *Sewerage And Septahe Management Principle.* Towards this end, the City of Muntinlupa shall abide by the following sewerage and septage management principles.

- a. All buildings and structures whether residential, commercial, industrial establishments and government officers, institutions shall be required to have proper sewage treatment or septage management system. To prevent negative effects of all types of effuents on both surface and ground water quality. Untreated excreta from residential without septic tanks and untreated wastewater from industrial and public establishments shall not be allowed to be discharged to open drainage canals or piped drainage systems.
- b. No wastewater shall be discharged to the environment without any proper treatment.

SECTION 4. *Definition of Terms.* as used in this ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a) **Desludging** - refers to process of clearing or removing the accumulated domestic sludge or septage.
- b) **Domestic sludge** - refers to a solid prarticle of domestic sewage which settles at the bottom of the sedimentation tank and is digested by anaerobic bacteria purely from domestic sources.
- c) **DENR** - refers to the Department of Environment and Natural Resource.
- d) **DOH** - refers to the Department of Health
- e) **EMB** - refers to the Environemnt Management Bureau,

- f) **Septage** - refers to a combination of scum, sludge and liquid from household septic tanks.
- g) **Hygienic Septic Tank** - refers to a septic tank with no openings at the bottom of the slab; closed structure so as not to allow the leaching of liquid or solid wastes to the surrounding soil or ground
- h) **Septic Tank** - refers to a watertight receptacle, which receives the discharge of a sanitary plumbing system or part thereof, and is designed and constructed to accomplish the sedimentation and digestion of the organic matter in the sewage within the period of detention/retention and to allow the liquid to discharge to a leaching field, sewer lines, a combined sewerage network or directly to a secondary wastewater treatment facility in accordance with the standards set forth by the Revised National Plumbing Code of the Philippines.
- i) **Septage Treatment Plant** - refers to a series of structures purely for the process of treating septage (from septic tanks) in order to comply with DENR effluent standards.
- j) **Sewage** - refers to any wastewater containing human, animal or vegetable waste matter in suspension or solution including human excreta and urine and may possibly contain liquids consisting of chemicals in solution.
- k) **Sewer** - refers to an artificial pipe or conduit for carrying sewage and wastewater.
- l) **MWSS** - refers to Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System.
- m) **Maynilad** - refers to concessionaire doing business in the City of Muntinlupa.
- n) **Department** - refers to the Department of Health.
- o) **Communal Excreta Disposal System** - an excreta disposal system serving a group of dwelling unit.
- p) **Chemical Privy** - a privy where fecal matter is deposited into a tank containing a caustic chemical solution to prevent septic action while the organic matter is decomposed.
- q) **Digestive Cesspool** - a pit for the reception or detention of sewerage.
- r) **Distribution box** - a small concrete receptacle between the septic tank and the drain field from which lines of drain tiles extend and which acts a surge tank to distribute the flow of sewage equally to each line of drain tiles.

- s) **Drainage system** - the drainage pipes of a plumbing system taking the waste water from the plumbing fixtures and delivering it to the sewer or some other outlet.
- t) **Local Health Officer** - refers to City Health Officer.
- u) **LLDA** - Laguna Lake Development Authority
- v) **LMO** - Lake Management Office.
- w) **Operational Permit** - the permit to discharge effluent from sewage disposal system.
- x) **Sanitation Inspector** - a government official or personnel employed by the national, provincial, city or municipal government who enforces sanitary rules, laws and regulations and implements environmental sanitation activities under the supervision of the provincial/municipal health officer/sanitary engineer.
- y) **Wastewater Treatment Plant** refers to a series of structure that will process the treatment of sewage, mostly from domestic origin, but may include pre-treated liquid wastes from industries and similar establishments; it may also accept the treatment of septage, provided there are facilities for accepting it and pre-treating it.

SECTION 5. Sewage Disposal System - all residential, commercial, industrial establishments and government institutions, both old and new ones, in the City of Muntinlupa are required to have a proper sewage disposal system such as septic tank for residences and sewage treatment facility for public or commercial establishment and government institutions.

- a) **Existing Facilities** - All residential houses and buildings must have a hygienic septic tank, as defined in SECTION 4(g) above, that is compliant with the national standards. Provided, that no structure must be built on top of septic tank to ensure that it is accessible at all times.

Owners of commercial, industrial and institutional buildings or facilities shall have an operational wastewater treatment facility either on-site or by service-off-site. The said facility shall conform to the standards of EMB-DENR and DOH.

- b) **New Facilities** - No building plan for residential dwelling units, commercial, industrial, institutional or recreational structures shall be approved unless the design of the sanitary plumbing and septic tank or wastewater facility conforms to the specifications as provided by national standards.

Facilities in sewerage areas utilizing either combined or separate sewer systems are required to provide the appropriate pre-treatment facilities prior to discharge of wastewater to drainage. Provided, that the City Building Official shall be required to evaluate the compliance of facilities (on the Pre-treatment standards set by DENR