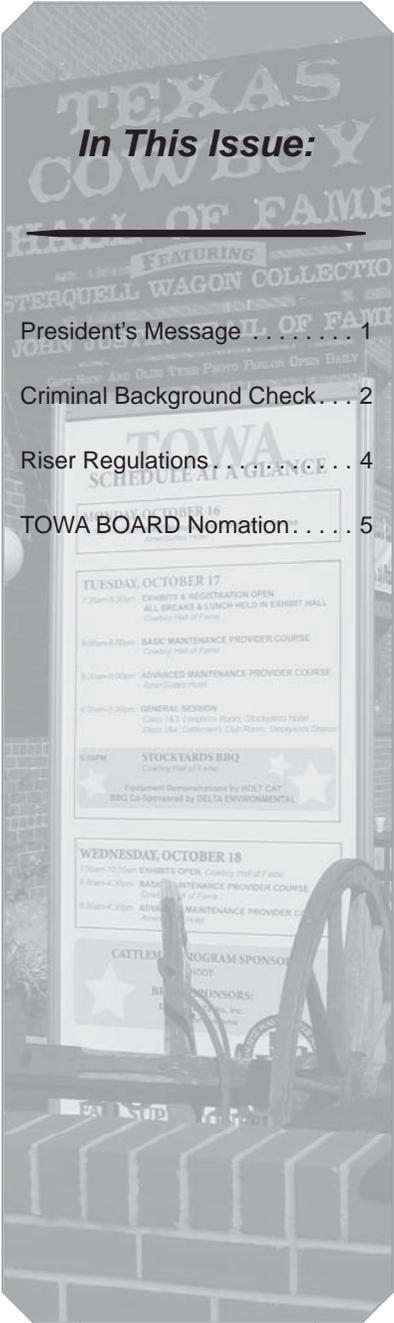


TOWA Insider



The Official Texas On-Site Wastewater Association Publication
Issue 2, 2012



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President's Message

Randi Weber

Well this year is flying by. Seems like yesterday we were in Waco. Now the Hunting season is in full swing, and the holidays are right around the corner. I hope this year was a decent one for all even with the depressed housing market for new systems.

A short pitch for the new year, reserve the dates of March 19 and 20, 2013 for the next TOWA convention in Waco. New training topics are to be offered and more vendor spaces will be available for more equipment viewing. Looking forward to seeing all in the OSSF industry there.

A major new major rulemaking development by the TCEQ was adopted to be effective on August 16, 2012. Rule §285.38 Prevention of Unauthorized Access to On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs)

Summarizing the rules:

- Construction criteria under 285.38 applies to:
- (A) Pretreatment (trash) tanks [see 285.32(b)(1)(G)]
 - (B) Proprietary treatment units [see 285.32(c)]
 - (C) non-standard treatment units {see 285.32(d)}
 - (D) Pump tanks [see 285.34(b)]
 - (E) Holding tanks [see 285.34(c)]
 - (F) Septic tanks [see 285.32(b)(1)]

Construction criteria under 285.38 subsection is in addition to construction criteria in 285.32 is this title.

All tanks must have inspection ports in the tank top over all inlet and outlet devices. Each inspection or cleanout ports must be offset to allow pumping and sized with a minimum of 12" in the smallest direction and also large enough to allow equipment removal and maintenance.

Can You Afford to be out of Work for 3 Months?

by Tim Taylor

TCEQ is now requiring a criminal background check for any OSSF license renewal and for any new licenses that are issued. This requirement is part of a bill that was passed by the Texas Legislature.

The bill actually requires that any State Agency that issues a license or registration must do a background check on the individual who is applying for or renewing a license or registration. This includes beauticians, pedicurists etc. There is a copy of this form in this edition or you can fill it out online by going to:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/licensing>

TCEQ is diligently enforcing this requirement. TOWA members and others who hold OSSF licenses have already had renewals denied for not submitting the form. In several cases Maintenance Providers who were grandfathered have been told that they must take the Advanced Maintenance Provider course in order to renew their MP license. Many others have had to retake the Installer II test in order to renew.

Please keep in mind that TCEQ has 45 days to process the paperwork on licenses. If you send in your renewal 45 days before your license expires but do not include the background check paperwork your license may expire before you receive notification that your application is incomplete.

TOWA recommends that you do a background check on yourself before you fill out the form. TCEQ is using the DPS data base:

<https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DpsWebsite/CriminalHistory/>

Which is a public data base that you can access. TOWA has already had members who reported

that they were arrested when they were 18 and had forgotten about it so they did not report it.

When TCEQ checked their record the arrest showed up. They then received, by snail mail, a notification that their application was incomplete and their license could not be renewed until paperwork was corrected.

At this point the 45 day approval period starts over.

Read both sides of the form carefully. This check includes both felony and misdemeanor arrests.

TOWA recommends that you track your license renewal dates by going to:

http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/lic_dpa/index.cfm?fuseaction=licall_searchindiv

Also remember that if you change your address the 285 rules require that you notify TCEQ within 30 days of the change. Due to budget cuts the licensing and OSSF teams at TCEQ have been forced to cut back on their staff. As a result they are not accepting excuses such as "I moved and forgot to notify you".

If you send anything to TCEQ send it Certified Mail or Return Receipt Requested.

Remember with government agencies "if it is not in writing then it did not happen".



TOWA President's Message Continued

Except septic tanks, all inspection and cleanout ports shall have risers over port openings which extend to the surface. A secondary plug, cap, or other suitable restraint system shall be provided below the riser cap to prevent tank entry if cap is damaged or removed.

All septic tanks buried more than 12" below the ground shall have risers over the port openings. Risers shall extend from tank surface to no more than 6" below the ground. A secondary plug, cap, or other suitable restraint system shall be provided below the riser cap to prevent tank entry if cap is damaged or removed.

Risers shall have inside diameters equal or larger than inspection or cleanout ports; be permanently fastened to tank lid or cast into the tank with a watertight between riser and tank lid; be fitted with removable watertight caps and protected against unauthorized intrusions.

Acceptable protective measures include (1) a padlock (2) a cover that can be removed with tools (3) a cover weighing 29.5 kg (65 pounds) or more set into a recess of the tank lid or (4) other means approved by the executive director. Installation of a riser to any component of a new OSSF is considered construction under this chapter and must performed by a licensed installer.

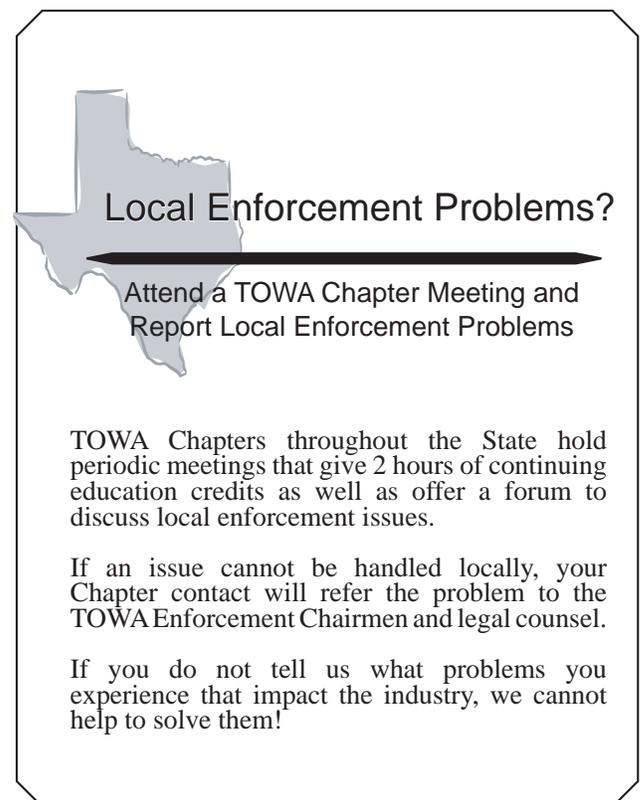
Installation of risers for OSSF components installed on or after September 1, 2012 are considered an emergency repair per 285.35 (relating to Emergency Repairs) and may be performed by either a licensed installer, licensed maintenance provider, or registered maintenance technician.

Any person who accesses any secured lid(s) or cover(s) on an OSSF shall secure the lid(s) or cover(s) when access is complete.

All inspection reports sent to Authorized Agents, Regional Offices, and homeowners must document that the access to the OSSF inspection and cleanout ports was secured after maintenance or inspection activities were completed or that the OSSF owner refused to pay for repairs that were needed to secure the OSSF inspection and cleanout ports.

As you can see this is something new, necessary, and needs attention by all. Please obtain a complete copy of this rule from the TCEQ web site to be completely and properly checked out on the rules.

Until March 2013, I bid everybody a successful 2012 and hope 2013 is better than this year. Best wishes for the holiday season and please drive safely (no texting behind the wheel) so we can meet next March in Waco.



Local Enforcement Problems?

Attend a TOWA Chapter Meeting and Report Local Enforcement Problems

TOWA Chapters throughout the State hold periodic meetings that give 2 hours of continuing education credits as well as offer a forum to discuss local enforcement issues.

If an issue cannot be handled locally, your Chapter contact will refer the problem to the TOWA Enforcement Chairmen and legal counsel.

If you do not tell us what problems you experience that impact the industry, we cannot help to solve them!



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Riser Regulations

By Kimber Svetlik

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has passed some new regulations effective September 1, 2012 that affects everyone.

Per Chapter §285.38 "Preventative of Unauthorized Access to On-site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs)" the revised regulations affect the criteria for the lids that extend to the ground surface.

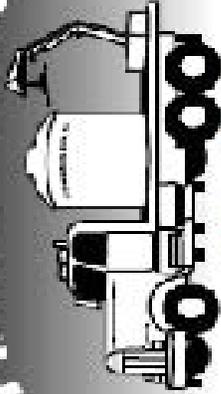
Per the regulation revisions "All tanks must have inspection or cleanout ports located on the tank top over all inlet and outlet devices. Each inspection or cleanout port must be offset to allow for pumping of the tank. The ports may be configured in any manner as long as the smallest dimension of the opening is at least 12 inches, and is large enough to provide for maintenance and equipment removal. Inspection and cleanout ports shall have risers over the port opening which extend to the ground surface. When a riser is installed, a secondary plug, cap or other suitable restraint system shall be provided below the riser cap to prevent tank entry if the cap is unknowingly damaged or removed." (TCEQ §285.38)

The following is additional revisions to the riser regulation as set out by TCEQ:

1. Inspection or cleanout ports shall have an inside diameter that is equal to or larger than the port.
2. The riser must be cast into the tank or permanently fastened to the tank lid. It must also be watertight.
3. The risers must be fitted with removable watertight caps and protected against unauthorized intrusions. Acceptable protective measures include the following:
 - padlock
 - cover that can only be removed by specialized tools
 - cover having a minimum net weight of 65 pounds
 - an additional approved method approved by the executive director of TCEQ
4. Risers and riser caps must be able to withstand ultraviolet light when it is exposed.
5. The riser must be able to withstand the pressure by surrounding soil.

(continued on page 10)

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<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/licensing>

CRIMINAL CHARGES/CONVICTION NOTIFICATION (attach additional pages as necessary)

1. TCEQ License #	2. Last Name	3. First Name	4. M.I.	5. Suffix
6. Last 4 of SSN	7. Email Addr.	8. Date of Birth / /		

By checking this box I attest that I have not been arrested or received a criminal conviction.
 (If this box is checked, skip to the bottom to sign and date the form.)

CONVICTION INFORMATION

9. Date Convicted / /	10. Offense(s) Convicted Of			
11. Docket Number		12. Trial Date (if applicable) / /		
13. Court Where Convicted		14. Court Mailing Address		
15. City	16. State	17. County	18. ZIP+4 -	19. Phone Number () -

ARREST INFORMATION

20. Date Arrested or Charged / /	21. County and/or Court, Address, Phone #, Where Charges are Pending			
22. Offense(s) Charged With (indicate felony or misdemeanor and class)				
23. Docket Number		24. Trial Date (if applicable) / /		
25. Name of Arresting Agency		26. Arresting Agency Mailing Address		
27. City	28. County	29. ZIP+4 -	30. Phone Number () -	

I affirm that the above information is true and correct. I understand that fraudulent or falsified information could result in denial of this application pursuant to Tex. Admin. Code § 30.33 or revocation of my license pursuant to Tex. Water Code § 7.303.

/ /

Name (Type or Print)	Title	Signature	Date
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- 1. TCEQ License #** - If you currently hold a license with the TCEQ, list it here.
- 2-3. Last Name/First Name** - as it appears on your Government-issued ID
- 4. M.I.** - as it appears on your Government-issued ID
- 5. Suffix** - Jr., Sr., III, etc., as it appears on your Government-issued ID
- 6. Last 4 of SSN** - Last 4 digits of your Social Security Number
- 7. Email Address** - email address at which we can contact you
- 8. Date of Birth** - MM/DD/YYYY (ex: 04/01/1978), as it appears on your Government-issued ID

CONVICTION INFORMATION

- 9. Date Convicted** - date of guilty verdict (MM/DD/YYYY)
- 10. Offense(s) Convicted Of** - what were you found guilty of
- 11. Docket Number** - What is the number of your court proceedings?
- 12. Trial Date** - When was your trial (MM/DD/YYYY)?
- 13. Court Where Convicted** - ex: Travis County Court # 3
- 14-19. Court Mailing Address/City/State/ZIP+4/Phone Number**

ARREST INFORMATION

- 20. Date Arrested or Charged** - date of arrest or court appearance (MM/DD/YYYY)
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- 22. Offense(s) Charged With (indicate felony or misdemeanor and class)** - what were you arrested for
- 23. Docket Number** - What is the number of your court proceedings?
- 24. Trial Date** - What is your trial date (MM/DD/YYYY)
- 25. Name of Arresting Agency** - What law enforcement agency arrested you?
- 26.-30. Arresting Agency Mailing Address/City/State/ZIP+4/Phone Number**

-
- TxDPS Public Criminal History Search:
<https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DpsWebsite/CriminalHistory/>
 - Fingerprint Applicant Services of Texas:
http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime_records/pages/applicantfingerprintservices.htm
 - To locate Conviction Docket Numbers, etc., you will need to contact the court in which you were convicted: <http://www.courts.state.tx.us/>

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(continued from page 4)

Any installation of a riser to any part of an OSSF must be performed by a licensed installer, licensed maintenance provider or registered maintenance technician and is considered construction under these rules.

On or Prior to September 1, 2012 installation of risers for OSSF components are considered an emergency as described in TECQ rule §285.35.

When a secured lid or cover is accessed on an OSSF, it shall be secured when service is completed.

Documentation must be completed on the inspection report and sent to the Authorized Agents, Regional offices, and homeowners that the cleanout ports were secured after the maintenance or inspection were completed.

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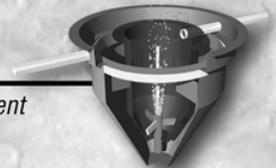
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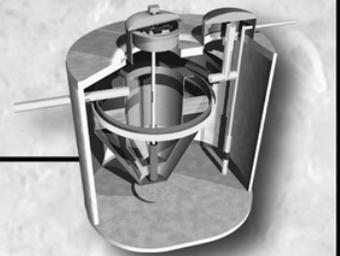
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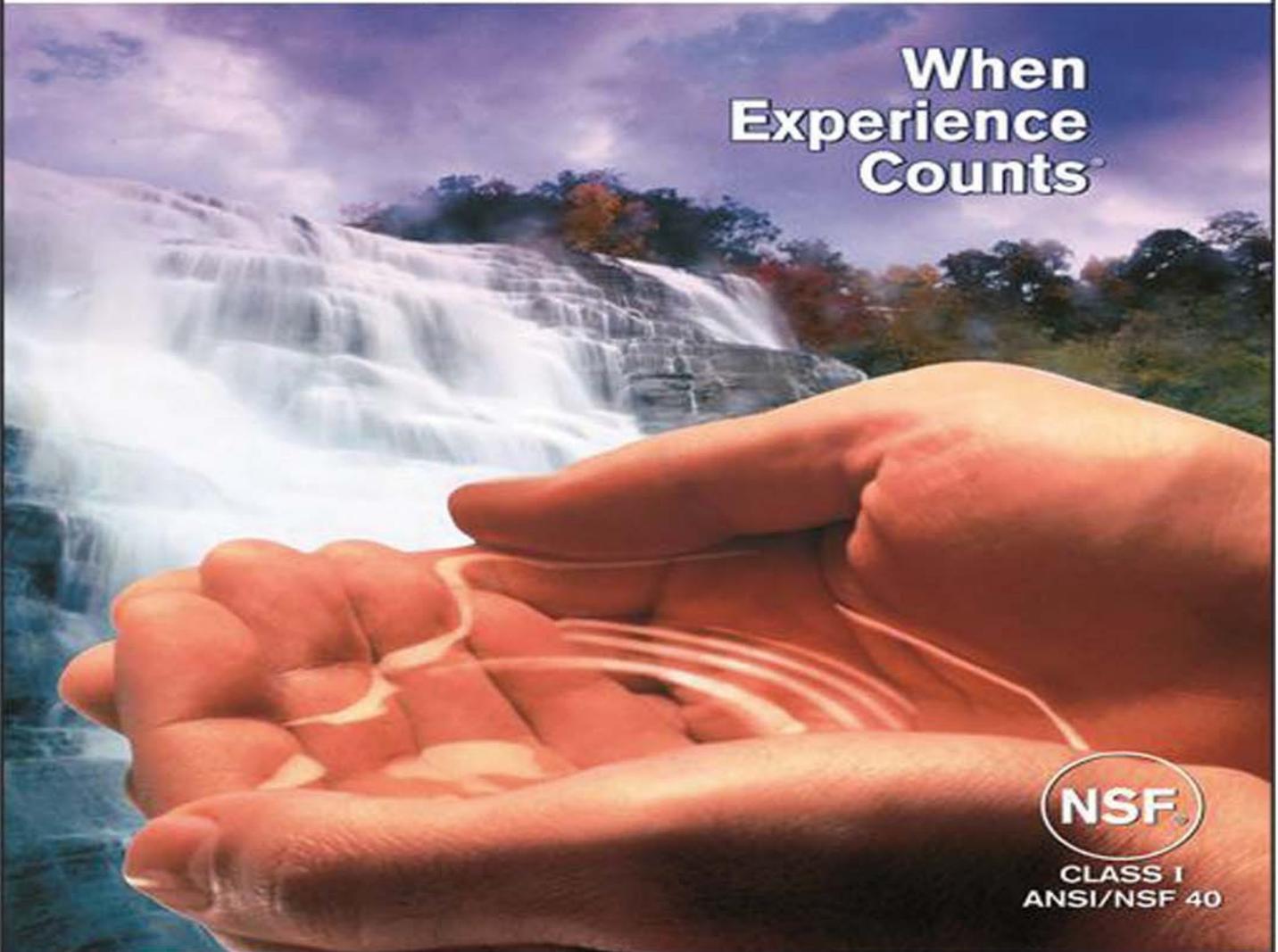
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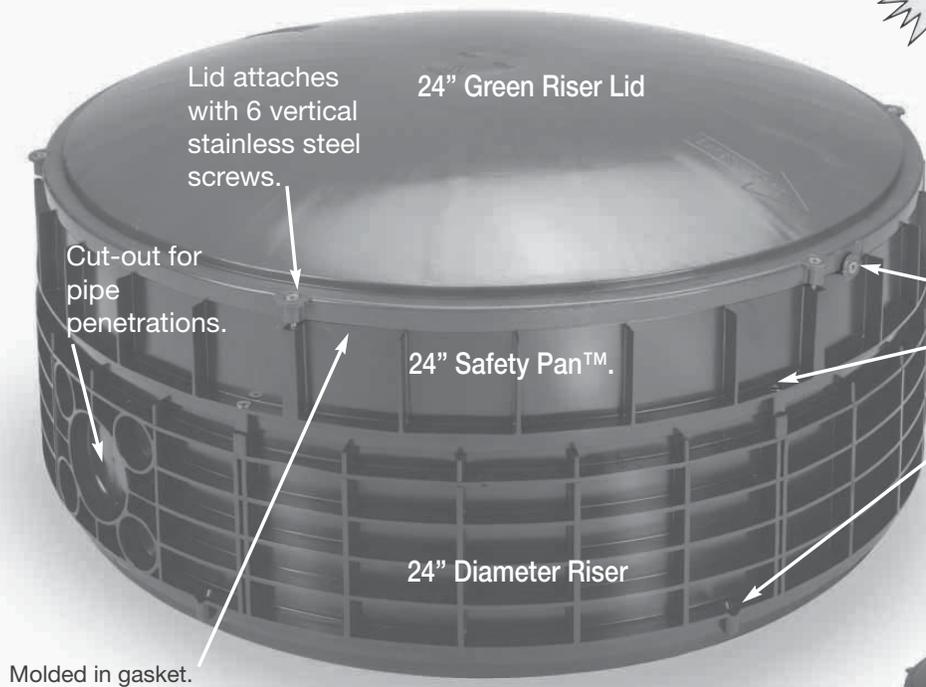
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Lid attaches with 6 vertical stainless steel screws.
24" Green Riser Lid

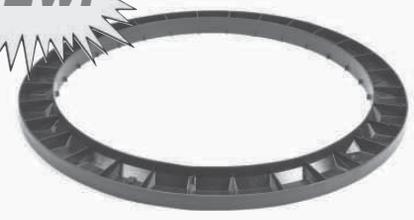
Cut-out for pipe penetrations.

24" Safety Pan™

24" Diameter Riser

Molded in gasket.

Available in 12", 16", 20" and 24" diameters.



Tank Adapter Ring

New - Horizontal Safety Screw.

Safety Pan™ to Riser attachment with 6 vertical stainless steel screws.

Riser to Riser attachment with 6 vertical stainless steel screws.

Patent Numbers
5,617,679 &
5,852,901; other
pats. pending.

Riser Lid

with Molded-in gasket.
Available in 12", 16", 20" and 24" diameters.

Concrete Lid w/handle

Safety Pan™

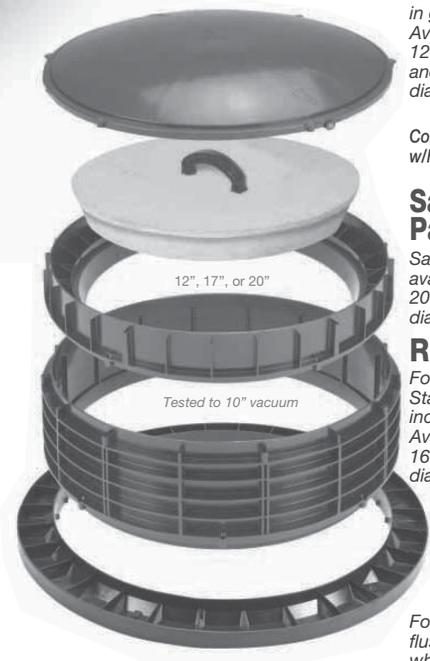
Safety Pan™ available in 16", 20" and 24" diameters.

Riser

For septic tanks. Stackable in 6" increments. Available in 12", 16", 20" and 24" diameters.

Tank Adapter Ring

For mounting riser flush to top of tank when casting-in is not an option.



Effluent Filters

Patent Numbers
6,319,403; D 431,629; other
pats. pending.

800 GPD
ANSI/NSF
Standard 46

4" Sch. 40 &
SDR-35

EF-4
4" Filter

EF-6
6" Filter

1500 GPD
ANSI/NSF
Standard 46

4" Sch. 40 &
SDR-35

244 ft. of
1/16" filtration
area.

Gas/Solids
Deflector

One-Piece Tank Seal

For concrete Septic tanks and D-boxes.
Accepts pipes from 1-1/2" to 4".
Mounts with or without concrete flash.



Free Freight: 32¢

Patent No's
4,951,914,
5,624,123
& 5,711,536;

TS-4-RUBBER TANK SEAL

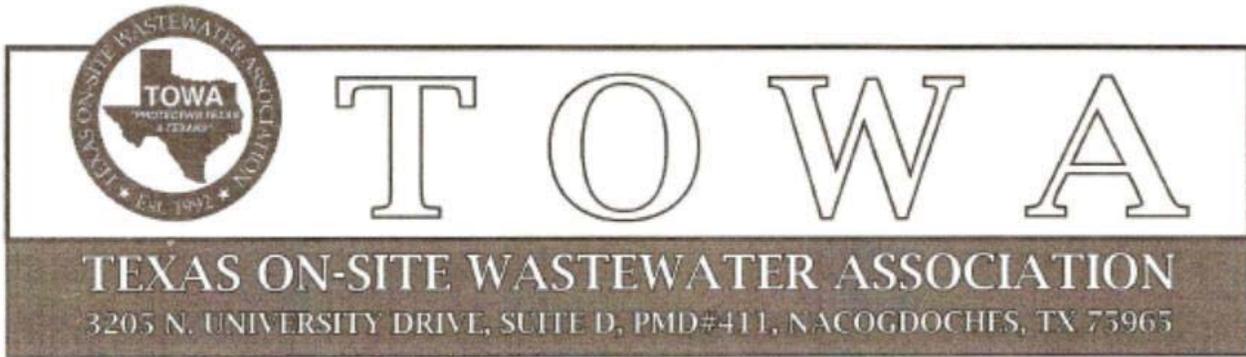
(will hold 10psi)

TS-4PRO TANK SEAL

(will hold 5" vacuum)

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TOWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ATTENTION TOWA MEMBERS: Nominate a fellow TOWA Member to serve on the Board of Directors. Board Members will be elected prior to March, and will take office beginning at the Annual TOWA Meeting in March 2013.

A total of 4 positions + officers on the Board of Directors are up for election.
Available positions are:

- Officers (one year term, or until a successor is elected)
 - Secretary – Pat Duncan
 - Treasurer - Tim Snyder
- Directors at Large (two year term, or until a successor is elected)

To be nominated to the Board, a person must be nominated by a fellow Member and be a TOWA Member in good standing (Bylaws Article 4.02-.03).

To serve as an officer (Secretary or Treasurer) a person must also have served at least one year as a Director at Large on the Board. (Bylaws Article 5.01).

NOMINATIONS FORM

I nominate _____ to the position of:
(Print name of nominee)

Director at Large

Please send all nominations to the TOWA Office or to Tim Taylor by December 31, 2012.

TOWA Office: 3205 N. University Drive, Suite D, PMD #411, Nacogdoches, TX 75965
936-564-9116 (fax)
Email: ttaylor1@msn.com

Please do not nominate anyone who has not committed to work at least 10 hours a month toward the promotion of TOWA. This includes attending Board meetings, working on various committees and directly helping to increase TOWA membership.

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TWO TANK
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AK Custom Mold Fabrication



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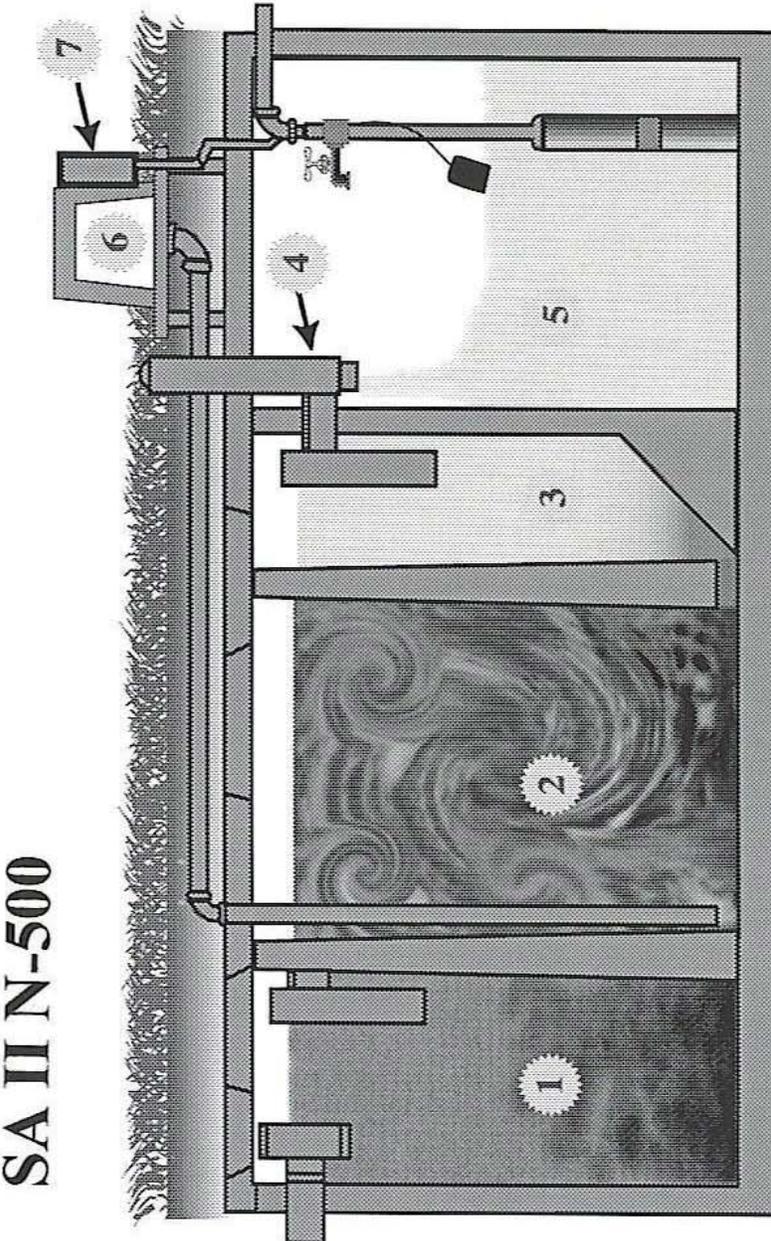


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Where influent enters from home.
- 2 Aeration Chamber**
Where oxygen is pumped into the sewage.
- 3 Clarifier**
Where clear odorless effluent rises.
- 4 Chlorinator**
For disinfection (where required)
- 5 Holding Tank**
Stores the chlorinated effluent for discharge through the chosen method of disposal.
- 6 Linear Air Pump**
Extremely quiet & efficient.
- 7 Complete Control Center**
Monitors and controls the system, assuring that it functions at a very low cost.

Manufacturer

National Wastewater Systems, Inc.

Sub-Manufacturer

C & M Precast Concrete, Co

I-10 Contracting, Corpus Christi Area

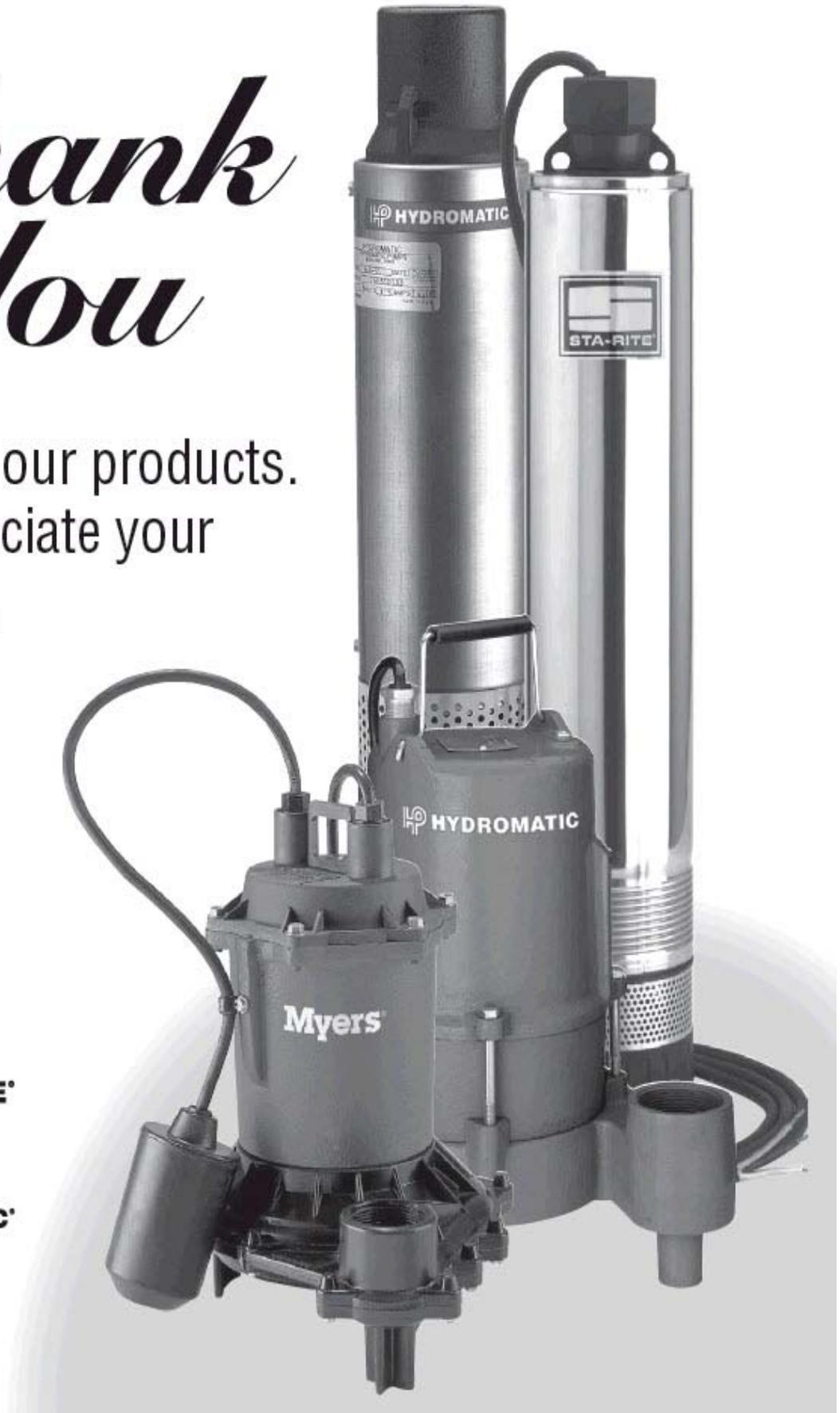
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830-367-5988

361-729-5555

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business.

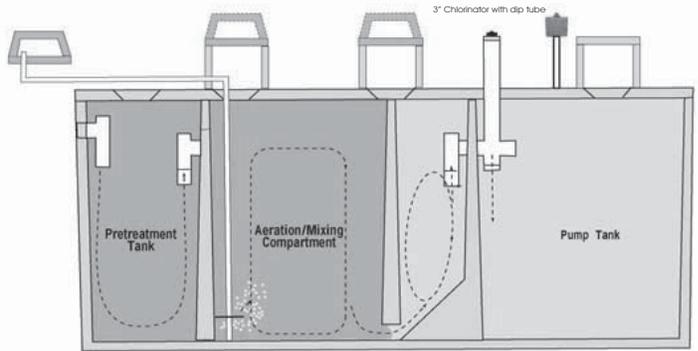


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- ⚡ Kills Bacteria effectively and economically
- ⚡ Impedes bacteria re-growth
- ⚡ Safer Alternative to liquid or gas chlorine
- ⚡ No chemical mixing required
- ⚡ 10, 25, 50, 100 lbs sizes available

- ⚡ 47010 - 10 lb unit - 60 units per pallet / skid
- ⚡ 47025 - 25 lb unit - 36 units per pallet / skid
- ⚡ 47050 - 50 lb unit - 24 units per pallet / skid
- ⚡ 47100 - 100 lb unit - 18 units per pallet / skid

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Welcome

Enviro-Flo Inc. is a Mississippi based wastewater treatment plant manufacturer. We are approved to sell our products throughout the United States and several countries. We strive to be the best in the industry. The Enviro-Flo wastewater treatment unit was designed by installers for installers. Our design places great emphasis on performance, reliability, easy installation, and economical pricing. Our distributors are carefully selected and expected to uphold the highest standards. Please browse throughout our site and feel free to contact us directly if you have any questions.



Our Goal

Enviro-Flo, Inc. wishes to bring you the most comprehensive information about the treatment of wastewater in small flow applications. We have designed our product with the installer in mind, and have designed our website to provide you quick and easy access to our information.

We are the environmentally friendly alternative for wastewater treatment with over 25 years of experience in the wastewater field. Our systems are designed with the installer in mind to minimize service and repairs, provide simple installation, and easy accessibility

We hope you find this website a valuable resource. Thank you for visiting Enviro-Flo.com

Enviro-Flo Inc.

P.O. BOX 321161
FLOWOOD, MS 39232
1-877-8ENVIRO

We are always looking for State representatives, distributors, and manufacturers. If you would like to inquire about becoming a part of the Enviro-Flo team click the globe below. All contacts are kept confidential.



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TOWA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 19-20, 2013

*TOWA Annual Conference
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*To register go to www.xpertregistration.com/towa2013
Receive CEU credits of up to 10 hours (TCEQ approval).*

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