

Ogunquit Sewer District

Sewer Extension and Connection Policy

Effective October 15, 2019

The following Policy on sewer connections and extensions repeals and replaces a connection policy dated December 7, 2010 and amended April 5, 2011.

INTRODUCTION

The Ogunquit Sewer District (“the District”) is a quasi-municipal corporation formed in 1963 by the Maine State Legislature. The District is granted authority within the territory of the Town of Ogunquit and the territory of any adjoining municipality to collect, hold, purify, treat, distribute and disburse sewerage matter and industrial waste.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a consistent plan and standards for connections and extensions both within the territory of the Town of Ogunquit and the territory of any adjoining municipality. The policy is intended to provide standards and guidelines in response to the demands of increasing residential and commercial development within the Town of Ogunquit. It is not the policy of the District to foster or promote development of any kind in any adjoining municipality.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Each connection and/or extension proposal shall be considered individually and at the sole discretion of the members of the Board of Trustees (“the Board”). The Board shall consider each application for connection and/or extension on a case by case basis. The Board will consider each request in accordance with State and Federal laws, local ordinances and the best interest of the District. The District shall not be obligated to approve any connection and/or extension solely on the basis of previous approvals of other extensions & connections.

DEFINITIONS

- **Extension of Sewer Service**: Construction and installation of District owned sewer main, pump station and apparatus to service an area or location not currently serviced by the Ogunquit Sewer District (OSD).
- **Connection of Sewer Service**: Process of connecting a structure to public sewer by installing a privately owned pipe, and connecting to an existing District owned sewer line (i.e. **Extension**) that had been previously approved by the District and that is in existence and use.

EXTENSION REQUESTS

All requests for Extension of sewer service will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the Board. Pursuant to the District's statement of policy it will consider each request based on reducing any negative impact to the environment coupled with the District having sufficient capacity to service the Extension while always complying with State law.

Town of Ogunquit:

- 1) All Extension requests will be reviewed to determine that the District's existing system (gravity and forced mains, pump stations and treatment facility) has sufficient capacity to handle flows from the new Extension service area. This will require the Board's review and approval and will be permitted for existing structures or new development.
- 2) All costs associated with Town of Ogunquit Extensions will normally be paid for by the property owners or the developers of the service area benefiting from the requested Extension.
- 3) For extension requests initiated by the District, please refer to the Ogunquit Sewer District procedure on District initiated extensions.

Adjoining Municipalities (subject to the following restrictions):

- 1) Extension requests will be reviewed for the purpose of correcting or mitigating negative impacts from failing sub-surface waste water disposal systems that could negatively impact Ogunquit's environment and surface water ways.
- 2) All Extension requests will be reviewed to determine whether the District's existing system (gravity and forced mains, pump stations and treatment facility) has sufficient capacity to handle the proposed increase in flow from the new proposed Extension service area. This will require Board review and approval and will be permitted to service existing structures in the newly created service area. It must be shown that a structure will negatively impact Ogunquit's watershed area because of a failing septic system, and that providing service would be deemed necessary for the health, welfare, comfort and convenience of the inhabitants of the District.
- 3) All costs associated with adjoining municipality Extensions will be paid for by the property owners of the service area benefiting from the requested extension.
- 4) Total cumulative capacity use from adjoining municipalities shall total no more than 6% of the total District treatment plant capacity as certified by the State of Maine.

Applicable to Town of Ogunquit and/or Adjoining Municipality Extension Requests

After determining that the above criteria have been met, in accordance with State Law, the District will seek written assurance from the Town of Ogunquit's municipal officers or the designee of the municipal officers stating their approval of said Extension. Should the requested Extension be located within or pass into an adjoining municipality, written assurance must also be received from the adjoining municipality officers or the designee of those municipal officers.

Written assurance by the municipal officers or their designee must confirm that:

- 1) Any development, lot, or unit intended to be served by the sewer Extension is in conformity with any adopted municipal plans and ordinances regulating land use; and
- 2) The sewer Extension is consistent with adopted municipal plans and ordinances regulating land use.

Upon receipt of proper written assurance from the appropriate municipality or municipalities, the Board will issue written approval of said Extension. Approval for any Extension will expire in one year if the construction of said extension has not begun. A request for a time extension may be granted by the Board.

Each approval for Extension by the District will be considered separately and must adhere to any special conditions requested during the District's approval process and follow the District's standard procedure for sewer construction, as well as Town or State road opening permit procedures.

Disputes or grievances resulting from the above policy should be handled in accordance with Maine Revised Statutes; Title 38: Waters and Navigation; Chapter 10: Standard Sewer District Enabling Act; Subchapter 3: Powers; Section 1042: Sewer extension, applicable to all sewer districts.

CONNECTION REQUESTS

All requests for Connection to an approved sewer line (i.e. Extension) within the Town of Ogunquit or in an adjoining municipality will follow the District's Connection Policy as stated below. Pursuant to the District's statement of policy, it will consider each request based on reducing any negative impact to the environment coupled with the District having sufficient capacity to service the Connection while always complying with State Law and the District's Charter.

Connections within the Town of Ogunquit:

- 1) Requests will be granted for existing or new structures within the Town of Ogunquit after review by the Superintendent to determine adequate capacity of sewer mains, forced mains, pump station and treatment facility.
- 2) Fees to Connect: See "Connection & Impact Fee Schedule".
- 3) A signed "Application for Sewer Permit" must be submitted and approved by the District's Superintendent.

Connections in Adjoining Municipalities:

- 1) Requests will be granted for existing structures or replacement of existing structures that are in a pre-approved District Extension service area.
- 2) Fees: Connection fees shall be two times the Ogunquit residents' rate at the time of connection of service and will follow the Connection and Impact Fee Schedule adopted by the District at the time of request. See "Connection & Impact Fee Schedule".
- 3) Total cumulative capacity use from adjoining municipalities shall total no more than 6% of the total District Treatment Plant capacity as certified by the State of Maine.
- 4) A signed "Application for Sewer Permit" must be submitted and approved by the Superintendent after all requirements of the District's Connection Policy have been met.