

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SANITARY DISPOSAL
OF SEWAGE AND HUMAN EXCRETA

BE IT ORDAINED OR RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the following definitions shall apply in the interpretation of this Ordinance.

Accessible Sewer - A public sanitary sewer located in a street or alley abutting on the property in question or otherwise within 200 feet of any boundary of said property measured along the shortest available right-of-way.

Health Officer - The person duly appointed to such position having jurisdiction, or any person or persons authorized to act as his agent.

Human Excreta - The bowel and kidney discharges of human beings.

Sewage - All water-carried human and household wastes from residences, buildings or industrial establishments.

Approved Septic Tank System - A watertight covered receptacle of monolithic concrete, either precast or cast in place, constructed according to plans approved by the health officer. Such tanks shall have a capacity of not less than 750 gallons and in the case of homes with more than two bedrooms the capacity of the tank shall be in accordance with the recommendations of the Tennessee Department of Public Health as provided for in their 1958 bulletin entitled "Recommended Construction of Septic Tanks and Disposal Fields for Residential Uses." A minimum liquid depth of four feet should be provided with a minimum depth of air space above the liquid of one foot. The septic tank dimensions should be such that the length from inlet to outlet is at least twice but not more than three times the width. The liquid depth should not exceed five (5) feet. The discharge from the septic tank shall be disposed of in such a manner that it may not create a nuisance on the surface of the ground or pollute the underground water supply, and such disposal shall be in accordance with recommendations of the health officer as determined by acceptable soil percolation data.

Watercourse - Any natural or artificial drain which conveys water either continuously or intermittently.

Section 2. That every residence, building, or place where human beings reside, assemble, or are employed within the City of Mount Carmel, Hawkins County, Tennessee shall be required to have a sanitary method for disposal of sewage.

Section 3. That wherever an accessible sewer exists and water under pressure is available, approved plumbing facilities shall be provided and the wastes from such facilities shall be discharged through a connection to said sewer made in compliance with the requirements of the official responsible for the public sewerage system. On any lot or premise accessible to the sewer no other method of sewage disposal shall be employed.

Section 4. That wherever water-carried sewage facilities are installed and their use is permitted by the health officer, and an accessible sewer does not exist, the wastes from such facilities shall be discharged into an approved septic tank system.

- a. No septic tank or other water-carried sewage disposal system except a connection to a public sewer shall be installed without the approval of the health officer or his duly appointed representative. The design, layout and construction of such systems shall be in accordance with specifications approved by the health officer and the installation shall be under the general supervision of the Department of Health.

Section 5. That every person, firm or corporation who operates equipment for the purpose of removing digested sludge from septic tanks, cesspools, privies and other sewage disposal installations on private or public property must register with the health officer and furnish such records of work done within the City of Mount Carmel as may be deemed necessary by the health officer.

Section 6. That any person, firm, or corporation proposing to construct a septic tank system, or other sewage disposal facility, requiring the approval of the health officer under this regulation, shall before the initiation of construction obtain the approval of the health officer for the design and location of the system and secure a permit from the health officer for such system.

Section 7. That it shall be the duty of the owner of any property upon which facilities for sanitary sewage are required by Section 2, above, or the agent of the owner to provide such facilities.

Section 8. That it shall be the duty of the occupant, tenant, lessee or other person in charge to maintain the facilities for sewage disposal in a clean and sanitary condition at all times, and no refuse or other material which may unduly fill up, clog or otherwise interfere with the operation of such facilities shall be deposited therein.

Section 9. That no sewage or human excreta shall be thrown out, deposited, buried, or otherwise disposed of, except by a sanitary method of disposal as specified in this ordinance.

Section 10. That no sewage or excreta shall be discharged or deposited into any lake or watercourse except under conditions specified by the health officer and specifically authorized by the Tennessee Stream Pollution Control Board.

Section 11. That no sewage, effluent from a septic tank, sewage treatment plant, or discharges from any plumbing facility shall empty into any well, either abandoned or constructed for this purpose, cistern, sinkhole, crevice, ditch, or other opening either natural or artificial in any formation which may permit the pollution of ground water.

Section 12. That it shall be the duty of the health officer to make an inspection of the methods of disposal of sewage and human excreta as often as is considered necessary to insure full compliance with the terms of this ordinance. Written notification of any violation of this ordinance shall be given by the health officer to the person or persons responsible under this ordinance for the correction of the condition, and correction shall be made within 30 days after notification. If the health officer shall advise any person that the method by which human excreta and sewage is being disposed of constitutes an immediate and serious menace to health such person shall at once take steps to remove the menace, and failure to remove such menace immediately shall be punishable as provided in Section 14 hereof; but such person shall be allowed the number of days herein provided within which to make permanent correction.

Section 13. That whenever carnivals, circuses, or other transient groups of persons come within the City of Mount Carmel such groups of transients shall provide a sanitary method for disposal of sewage and human excreta. Failure of a carnival, circus, or other transient group to provide such sanitary method of disposal and to make all reasonable changes and corrections proposed by the health officer shall constitute a violation of this ordinance. In these cases the violator shall not be entitled to the notice of 30 days provided for in Section 12 hereof.

Section 14. That any person, persons, firm, association, or corporation or agent thereof, who shall fail, neglect or refuse to comply with the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished in the manner prescribed by Section 53-303 of the Tennessee Code Annotated, and each day of continued violation after conviction shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 15. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance be and are hereby repealed, and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Section 16. That should any part or parts of this ordinance be declared invalid for any reason, the remainder of said ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 17. This ordinance shall take affect from and after the date of its final passage, the public welfare requiring it.