



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGION IV-A (CALABARZON)
PROVINCE OF CAVITE
CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 18-02 (GENERAL)

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Chair, Committee on Environment

Sponsors : SP Member Jonas Glyn P. Labuguen
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ESTABLISHING A PROPER SEWAGE TREATMENT AND SEPTAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR ANY VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court in *MMDA vs Concerned Residents of Manila Bay* Case states: "The cleanup and/or restoration of the Manila Bay is only an aspect and the initial stage of the long term solution. The preservation of the water quality of the bay after the rehabilitation process is as important as the cleaning phase. It is imperative then that the wastes and contaminants found in the rivers, inland bays, and other bodies of water be stopped from reaching Manila Bay. Otherwise, any cleanup effort would just be futile, cosmetic exercise, for, in no time at all the Manila Bay water quality would again deteriorate below the ideal minimum standards set by PD 1152, RA 9225, and other relevant laws...";

WHEREAS, this Supreme Court Decision necessities the coordinated and collective efforts of the Local Government Units (LGUs) and its instrumentalities, the concerned National Agencies and the private sectors for the effective and efficient compliance with the Supreme Court directives;

WHEREFORE, on motion of SP Member Kerby J. Salazar duly seconded by SP Member Vivencio Q. Lozares, Jr.,

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of General Trias that:

SECTION 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be called the "Sewage and Septage Ordinance of the City of General Trias".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the mandate of the State to safeguard the constitutional right to life, health, and balanced ecology and to provide the resources to implement this policy for the benefit of all citizens. The Supreme Court (SC), in its decision dated 18 December 2008 and Resolution dated 15 February 2011, the DILG was mandated to monitor local government performance in terms of SC determined Local Government Units (LGUs) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). One of the LGU's KPI focuses on the compliance of private homes, establishments and factories on having hygienic septic tanks and wastewater treatment facilities.

It shall be the policy of the City of General Trias to share in the responsibility on the management and improvement of water quality within its territorial jurisdiction. To meet these objectives, the City shall implement measures to prevent and control water pollution to promote health and ensure a balanced ecology.



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SECTION 3. Scope and Coverage.

3.1. This Ordinance entails the hiring of the services of the Manila Water Company, Inc. (MWC) or any authorized water concessionaire in providing sewage treatment and septage management system in the different structures in the City of General Trias together with the General Trias Water Corporation (GTWC) for the collection of fees for the purpose, through a Memorandum of Undertaking (MOU).

3.2. For the effective implementation of this Ordinance, the following structures are covered:

- a. All residential structures including, but not limited to, an apartment, house and/or land on which another's dwelling is located and used for residential purpose and shall include not only buildings, parts or units thereof used solely as dwelling places, boarding houses, dormitories, rooms and bed spaces offered for rent by their owners, and also those used for home industries, retail stores or other business purposes if the owner thereof and his or her family actually live therein and use it principally for dwelling purposes;
- b. Commercial establishments, including, but not limited to, restaurants, convenience stores, hardwares, malls, groceries, markets, carwashes, condominiums, motels, hotels, hostels, resorts, recreational establishments, auto-repair shops (talyer), poultries and livestock rearing establishments, etc.;
- c. Industrial establishments, including, but not limited to, factories, manufacturing plants, etc.;
- d. Governmental structures, including, but not limited to, barangay halls, government offices, etc.; and
- e. Institutional structures, including, but not limited to, schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, churches, etc..

SECTION 4. Definition of Terms. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a. Combined Sewer System - this is the conveyance of wastewater from the drainage through the interceptor lines going to the Sewerage Treatment Plant/s;
- b. DENR - the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- c. Desludging - a process of cleaning or removing the accumulated domestic septage from septic tanks;
- d. DILG - the Department of the Interior and Local Government;
- e. DOH - the Department of Health;
- f. Effluent - a general term denoting any wastewater, partially or completely treated or in its natural state, flowing out of a drainage canal, septic tank, building, manufacturing plant, industrial plant, treatment plant, etc.;
- g. EMB - the Environmental Management Bureau of the DENR;
- h. Food Establishment - any structure used to engaged in food business;
- i. General Trias Water Corporation (GTWC) - a private local water utility engaged in the collection of fees for the septage and waste management system in the City;
- j. Hygienic Septic Tank - a watertight septic tank with no opening/s at the bottom slab so as not to allow the leaching of liquid or solid wastes to the surrounding soil or ground water;

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- k. MWSS – The Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System with Manila Water Company, Inc. (MWCI) as concessionaire;
- l. Pretreatment Facility – means any apparatus or equipment used to modify the characteristics of effluent prior to a wastewater disposal system, and includes grease traps, oil separators, dilution pits and similar devices;
- m. Septage – a combination of scum, sludge, and liquid from household septic tanks, thickened and partially treated sewage that is removed from a septic tank;
- n. Septage Treatment Plant – a series of structure purely for the process of treating septage in order to comply with DENR effluent standards;
- o. Septage Management – this involves the depository of the households sewage to a properly designated septic tank and collected by a desludging truck going to a Septage Treatment Plan (SpTP);
- p. Septic Tank – a watertight receptacle that 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 or 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;
- q. Sewage – 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;
- r. Sewer or sewer lines – artificial pipes or conduits provided by the water utilities for carrying sewage and wastewater;
- s. Sewerage Disposal System – is the proper disposal of effluent using either a Sewerage System, Combined Drainage System, or Septage Management whichever is required or accepted by existing environmental laws and policies;
- t. Sewerage System – this involves the collection of sewage from households which will be conveyed through the sewer pipelines going to a Sewage Treatment Plant or STP;
- u. Sludge – a solid particle of domestic sewage which settles at the bottom of the sedimentation tank, and is digested by anaerobic bacteria purely from domestic sources;
- v. Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) – a series of structure that processes the treatment of sewage, mostly from domestic origin, but may include pretreated liquid wastes from industries and similar establishments, and may also accepting and pretreating it; and
- w. Water Utilities – this include the Manila Water Company, Inc. (MWCI) or any authorized water concessionaire.

SECTION 5. Principles of Sewerage and Septage Management. The City of General Trias shall abide by the following sewerage and septage management principles:

- a. Untreated excreta from residential areas without septic tanks and untreated wastewater from commercial, industrial, institutional and public establishments shall not be allowed to be discharged to open drainage canals or piped drainage system;

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- b. All buildings and structures, whether residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, and institutional, shall be required to have proper sewage treatment or septage management system:
- i. All residential structures shall have hygienic septic tanks,
 - ii. All commercial and industrial establishments, and hospitals shall have hygienic septic tanks or wastewater treatment facility based on the determination of the DENR or DOH,
 - iii. All governmental and institutional structures except hospitals shall have hygienic septic tanks or wastewater treatment facilities based on the number of individuals regularly occupying the structure. If there are 212 occupants or less, these structures should have a hygienic septic tank, otherwise, they are required to have a wastewater treatment facility (based on the recommended policy being implemented by the Laguna Lake Authority), and
 - iv. Commercial, industrial, governmental, and institutional structures that are required to have wastewater treatment facilities shall have an operational wastewater treatment facility either on-site or by service off-site;
- c. No wastewater shall be discharged to wastewaters way without any proper treatment;
- d. For sewerred areas, or areas with sewer pipelines, no wastewater other than those from residential structures shall be allowed to discharge on the sewers or sewer pipelines unless such wastewater was serviced by a pretreatment facility to at least be of domestic wastewater quality;
- e. All good establishments (e.g. restaurants, eateries, food chains, etc.) discharging organic and inorganic wastes shall be required to have an oil and grease trap installed in their respective kitchen based on the recommendation of the City Engineering Office; and
- f. All septic tanks must be accessible at all times.

SECTION 6. Proper Sewage Disposal System Requirements. All residential, commercial, institutional, and governmental establishments in the City of General Trias, both old and new, are required to have proper sewage disposal system based on Section 4 hereof:

- a. For existing structures:
- i. Residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, and governmental structures with inaccessible and/or noncompliant septic tank shall opt for any of the following: (a) remodeling or restructuring to make the septic tank accessible and compliant with national standards or (b) construction of commercial or shared septic tank, within one (1) year upon the effectivity of this Ordinance,
 - ii. Commercial, industrial, institutional, and governmental establishments that are required to have an operational wastewater treatment facility should comply within one (1) year within the effectivity of this Ordinance, and



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iii. No business owner shall be issued a renewed business permit unless he/she has obtained the necessary clearances and permits such as discharge permits and environmental sanitation clearances as may be prescribed by existing laws or as may be required by the DENR and/or DOH and its instrumentalities;

b. New structures:

- i. No building permit shall be issued for residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, and governmental structures unless the design of the hygienic septic tank or wastewater treatment facility in the building plan conforms with existing environmental laws and policies, and
- ii. No business owner shall be issued new business permit unless he/she has obtained the necessary clearances and permits such as discharge permits and environmental sanitation clearances as may be prescribed by existing laws or as may be required by the DENR and/or DOH and its instrumentalities.

SECTION 7. Design of Septic Tanks. All septic tanks shall be designed to exclude storm water or flow from downspouts, and such other requirements and specifications as provided by national standards: "The City Engineer pursuant to Republic Act No. 6541 otherwise known as the National Building Code of the Philippines and Republic Act No. 1378 otherwise known as the Revised National Plumbing Code, is mandated to ensure that appropriate standard designs of septic tanks shall be enforced in the plan approvals and inspection procedures".

SECTION 8. Mandatory Desludging of Septic Tanks:

- a. All owners and users of septic tanks shall be required to desludged at least once every five (5) years;
- b. The opening and closing of septic tanks, for desludging purposes, shall only be done with the authority of the owner or user and with the assistance of Barangay Officials/Homeowners Association;
- c. Actual desludging must be done only by the Manila Water Company, Inc. or any authorized water concessionaire; and
- d. Violation of this provision shall subject the owner and/or user of the septic tank to the penalties as stipulated in Section 15 of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. Regulation on Desludger. Only the Manila Water Company, Inc. or any authorized water concessionaire shall be allowed to provide septage collection as well as the removal of liquid waste from septic tanks and their transportation services to its Septage Treatment Plant.

SECTION 10. Institutional Arrangements. The City Engineer shall have the following responsibilities in implementing this Ordinance:

- a. Inspection - Designate field inspectors that will check on the general design, construction, and maintenance requirements of septic tanks and/or wastewater treatment facilities in residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, and institutional structures;



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- b. Maintenance of Database – Coordinate with the City Health Office in the formation and maintenance of robust database of the list of all homeowners with hygienic septic tanks and with City Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) for the database of all business establishments with adequate wastewater treatment facilities; and
- c. Information Education and Communication (IEC) – Coordinate with the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) or equivalent for the conduct of massive IEC activities in collaboration with appropriate public or private agencies on proper wastewater management to increase level of awareness and commitment of the public to proper sewage treatment or septage management.

SECTION 11. User Fees and Other Funding Options:

- a. Fees for desludging and septage treatment for all residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, and institutional structures serviced by MWCI or any authorized water concessionaire shall be incorporated in the water billing statements to be issued by the General Trias Water Corporation (GTWC);
- b. A user fee for treatment and desludging shall be collected by the private or government operator as provided by the Clean Water Act of 2004, Section 8 and as duly authorized by Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) or any appropriate government agency after a public hearing for said purpose. This fee shall be paid monthly and shall cover expenses for the desludging of septic tanks once every five (5) years and operation of the Septage Treatment Facility or any other scheme as provided by law;
- c. For requests of unscheduled treatment and desludging, a special fee will be collected by the private or government operator from the requesting concessionaire;
- d. The Local Government Unit of General Trias may appropriate or raise funds to subsidize necessary expenses for the establishment and/or operation and maintenance of sewage treatment or septage facility through appropriate local property taxes and enforcement of a service fee system; and
- e. Further, the Local Government Unit of General Trias may pursue funding assistance from both local and foreign sources, either public or private, through mutual agreements subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 12. Sewerage Projects. Industrial, governmental, institutional, and commercial buildings and structures are required to pretreat all wastewater from their structures to “domestic wastewater quality” in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 (RA 9275) and to the DAO 2016-08 “Water Quality Guidelines and General Effluent Standards of 2016”, before the same is discharged.

SECTION 13. Prohibited Acts. The following acts are prohibited:

- a. Noncompliance with the mandate to build their own septic tanks;
- b. Refusal to desludge as required by this Ordinance;
- c. Refusal of new and existing residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, and institutional facilities to connect to available sewer lines however, commercial, industrial, governmental, and



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institutional have their option to construct their own treatment facility;

- d. Dumping of septage and untreated wastewater to drainages, canals, rivers, and other natural and artificial waterways and other open areas;
- e. Desludging and transporting of septage without the necessary permits and accreditation from the authorized permitting agencies; and
- f. Hiring/availing the services of illegal nonaccredited desludger, and transporter by any person or establishment to desludge septic tanks or dispose of their wastewater.

SECTION 14. Monitoring and Evaluation. The City Engineer in coordination with the City Health Officer, the City Environment and Natural Resources Officer, City Business Permit and Licensing Officer (BPLO) or then equivalent, shall be required to evaluate the compliance of the Manila Water Company, Inc. or any authorized water concessionaire and its facilities and the General Trias Water Corporation regarding the implementation of the Sewage Treatment and Septage Management System project in the City based on any laws applicable for the purpose.

Then same Officers are to come up with the annual list of violators to be posted in three (3) conspicuous places and in the local government website, if any. The same list shall be submitted to the City Treasurer and BPLO for the imposition of appropriate penalties, copy furnished the City DILG Office and the Barangay. Once a resident is included in the list of violator, this could be a ground for the barangay clearance.

SECTION 15. Penalties. Any owner or user of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental and institutional structures that fails to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance shall incur the following fines and penalties for every violation:

a. For Residential Homeowners:

- i. First Offense - Fine of Php 1 500.00 and the Issuance of a Notice of Violation,
- ii. Second Offense - Fine of Php 2 500.00 and Mandatory Environment Related Community Service,
- iii. Third Offense - Fine of Php 5 000.00 and Nonissuance of Barangay Clearance, and
- iv. Succeeding Offenses - Fine of Php 5 000.00, Environment Related Community Service, and continued refusal to issue Barangay Clearance until the owner and/or user complies with the provisions of this Ordinance;

b. For Business Owners:

- i. First Offense - Fine of Php 2 500.00 and the Issuance of a Notice of Violation, and
- ii. Second Offense - Fine of Php 5 000.00 and the Issuance of a Cease and Desist Order.

Violators shall be assessed annually to monitor their compliance, likewise, continued violation shall merit the imposition of increasing penalties for each assessed violation.



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SECTION 16. Separability Clause. In the event that any part or provision of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 17. Repealing Clause. All other documents, or provisions thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 18. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect after its publication in a newspaper of local circulation.

ORDAINED under THIRD/FINAL READING on 05 FEBRUARY 2018.


KERBY J. SALAZAR
SP Member


JONAS GLYN B. LABUGUEN
SP Member


GARY A. GREPO
SP Member


JOWIE S. CARAMPOT
SP Member


MARIO C. AMANTE
SP Member


WALTER C. MARTINEZ
SP Member


FLORENCIO D. AYOS
SP Member


VIVENCIO Q. LOZARES, JR.
SP Member


HERNANDO M. GRANADOS
SP Member


CONSTANCIA S. FELIZARDO
SP Member/LNB President

CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO
SP Member
(On Official Business)

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:


WENCESLAO P. CAMINGAY
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


MAURITO C. SISON
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


ANTONIO A. FERRER
City Mayor