



*State of North Carolina
Department of Public Safety
Prisons*

Chapter: L
Section: .0200
Title: **Water Testing, Recycling,
and Waste Disposal**
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POLICY & PROCEDURES

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| References | 5 th Edition Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions |
| Related ACA Standards | 5-ACI-2C-09, 5-ACI-5D-02, 5-ACI-5D-03 |
| Related NC General Statutes | 130A-309.10, 130A-309.58(b), 130A-309.70, 130A-309.131 |

.0201 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all North Carolina Department of Public Safety Prisons facilities meet and conform to appropriate federal, state, and local water supply and waste disposal requirements. Prisons requires all facilities to employ qualified and appropriately licensed staff, who shall perform inspections, cooperate, and comply with the Department of Public Safety's Central Engineering Division and other appropriate governmental agencies as required by ordinance, administrative codes, or other approved regulatory authority documentation.

Each facility, including Correction Enterprises, Region, and Division offices, shall adhere to this policy in the Division's efforts to reduce any potential negative impact on the environment. This policy is designed to help ensure compliance with North Carolina laws and regulations regarding solid waste disposal and recycling.

.0202 GENERAL

- (a) The officer in charge of each facility within Prisons (or their designated representative) will conduct a daily inspection of the facility for the purpose of detecting and eliminating hazards to the security, environmental health and sanitation, safety, and welfare of staff and offenders at the facility.
- (b) All correctional employees will be required to observe and report to their immediate supervisor any unusual conditions affecting security, safety, health, and sanitation of facilities, to include those who manage or inspect the potable water supply and the collection, storage, and removal of liquid and solid waste from institutions.

- (c) The administration of every correctional facility shall have in effect a written plan for the collection and disposal of solid waste materials that shall include procedures for recycling all mandated materials and other solid waste materials as practical and cost effective. Each facility administrator and region director shall designate a Recycling Coordinator to monitor recycling and solid waste disposal and ensure that this policy is fully implemented.
- (d) The administration of every correctional facility shall be familiar with any local sewer use ordinance or pretreatment regulations that govern their wastewater discharge.

.0203 DEFINITIONS

- (a) Back flow preventer – an approved assembly, device, or method that prohibits the unallowed reversal of flow of a liquid, gas, or other substance into the potable water distribution piping system as a result of a cross-connection.
- (b) Cross-connection – any physical connection between a potable water supply system and any other piping system, sewer fixture, container, or device, whereby water or other liquids, mixtures, or substances may flow into or enter the potable water supply system.
- (c) Environmental Health – is any condition or circumstance that influences the health of persons required to be in an area.
- (d) Potable Water – drinking water.

.0204 POLICY

- (a) **Water Testing:**

Institutions shall obtain and review Consumer Confidence Reports annually from the water supply provider regarding their water testing results. All facilities will maintain documentation of approval/certification from the water supply provider (5-ACI-5D-02).

- (b) **Plumbing:**

Plumbing shall be installed and maintained in accordance with applicable government standards.

- (1) There shall be no cross connections between potable water supplies and non-potable or questionable water supplies, nor shall there be a source of pollution through which potable water supplies might become contaminated.
- (2) Backflow Preventers shall be installed to protect against backflow or back siphonage in accordance with the associated degree of hazard.

- (3) Where testable backflow devices are installed annual testing shall be required.
- (4) If a facility has more than five testable backflow devices, then the facility shall have a licensed backflow Operator of Responsible Charge.
- (5) Hoses shall not be attached to faucets unless a back siphonage prevention device has been installed.
- (6) Pipe chases shall be maintained free of standing water and cleaned regularly.

(c) **Water Temperature:**

- (1) Hand-washing and shower facilities should be supplied with hot water and cold water through a mixing faucet. Hand washing sinks are set to a maximum water temperature of 120 degrees F. *Shower facilities are set within a temperature range of 105 to 110 degrees F (5-ACI-2C-09).*
- (2) Commercial dishwashing machines should be supplied with 180 degrees F. water for the final rinse cycle or an approved chemical sterilization system.
- (3) Institutional laundry must be washed at 160 degrees Fahrenheit for 25 minutes to get the maximum sanitation necessary. If any EPA registered disinfectants are utilized, they must be added at the rinse step of the wash cycle and laundry should be treated for a minimum of five minutes with water temperatures at or above 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

(d) **Water Conservation Measures:**

- (1) Do not operate hoses without hand-operated nozzles.
- (2) Fix or repair leaks, drips and other water losses.
- (3) Do not wash partial loads in washing machines and dishwashers.
- (4) Ensure that water-reducing aerators are in place, and that flush valves and water pressure gauges are properly set.

(e) **Waste Disposal:**

All Prisons facilities shall have a waste disposal system (liquid and solid wastes) that provides for the collection, storage, and disposal in a manner that will avoid nuisance and hazards and protects the health and safety of offenders and staff. *The waste disposal system will be in accordance with an approved plan by the appropriate regulatory agency (5-ACI-5D-03).*

(f) Solid Waste Containers:

- (1) Garbage and refuse shall be kept covered in durable, easily cleaned, fire safe, pest proof containers that do not leak or absorb liquids. Plastic bags may be used to line garbage containers.
- (2) Trash, garbage and refuse containers, except individual office trash containers used inside the buildings, shall be kept covered, emptied and cleaned daily, including weekends and holidays.
- (3) Containers stored outside the facility including dumpsters shall be easily cleaned, have tight fitting lids, doors or covers shall be kept covered or lined.

(g) Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling

All **Prisons** sites shall, at minimum, abide by all state and federal regulations regarding solid waste disposal:

- (1) North Carolina statute § 130A-309.10 states that: **No person shall knowingly dispose of the following solid wastes in landfills.**
 - (A) Used oil
 - (B) Yard trash, except in landfills approved for the disposal of yard trash under rules adopted by the Commission. Yard trash that is source separated from solid waste may be accepted at a solid waste disposal area where the area provides and maintains separate yard trash composting facilities
 - (C) White goods (appliances)
 - (D) Antifreeze (ethylene glycol)
 - (E) Aluminum cans
 - (F) Whole scrap tires, as provided in G.S. 130A-309.58(b). The prohibition of the disposal of whole scrap tires in landfills applies to all whole pneumatic rubber coverings, but does not apply to whole solid rubber coverings
 - (G) Lead-acid batteries, as provided in G.S. 130A-309.70
 - (H) Motor vehicle oil filters
 - (I) Recyclable rigid plastic containers that are required to be labeled as provided in subsection (e) of this section, that have a neck smaller than the body of the

container, and that accept a screw top, snap cap, or other closure. The prohibition on disposal of recyclable rigid plastic containers in landfills does not apply to rigid plastic containers that are intended for use in the sale or distribution of motor oil

- (J) Wooden pallets, except that wooden pallets may be disposed of in a landfill that is permitted to only accept construction and demolition debris
 - (K) Oyster shells
 - (L) Discarded computer equipment, as defined in G.S. 130A-309.131
 - (M) Discarded televisions, as defined in G.S. 130A-309.131
- (2) Each facility shall follow North Carolina Department of Environment **Quality** Universal Waste Management guidelines regarding handling and disposal of hazardous wastes such as fluorescent lamps, batteries, pesticides, and mercury containing equipment. All maintenance personnel (whether employee or **offender**) shall complete Universal Waste Management training prior to handling universal waste.
 - (3) Each facility shall make efforts to voluntarily reduce, reuse, repair, and recycle non-mandated items such as paper, cardboard, tin cans, glass, plastics, cooking oil, etc.

(h) Wastewater Collection

In accordance with 15ANCAC 02T .0403:

- (1) Each facility shall have a map of their wastewater collection system.**
- (2) Each facility shall have an operations and maintenance plan for their collection system.**
- (3) Each facility shall provide daily checks on lift stations or weekly checks if the lift station is equipped with telemetry.**
- (4) Each facility shall perform an annual observation inspection of all manholes and lines.**
- (5) Each facility shall have a Grease Control Program, which shall include posting of grease education materials.**

- (6) In the event of an overflow or bypass, spills must be reported if the total volume is estimated to be over 1,000 gallons or any volume reaches surface waters. Reporting is required within 24 hours to the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Public Safety's Central Engineering Division – Environmental Program.



Commissioner of Prisons

April 27, 2021

Date

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