

### 3.0 Restrooms and Sewage (Answers G-9, G-10, 1-6, 2-2 - 2-5)

#### Purpose:

To ensure that sanitation facilities are properly maintained to minimize the risk of introducing pathogens to produce.

#### Concern:

Improperly maintained sanitation facilities present opportunities to introduce pathogens that contaminate production areas and compromise workers' health.

#### Contaminants Introduction:

- Pathogens can be introduced to production fields and employees by improper management of sanitation facilities.

#### Policies and Procedures:

*Growers should list what they are doing to maintain and prevent contamination by restrooms, field sanitation units, and septic systems. These are some sample policies.*

1. All Occupational Safety and Health Act 29CFR, 1928.110 rules will be followed where eleven (11) or more employees are engaged on any given day in hand-labor operations in the field.  
([http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=STANDARDS&p\\_id=10959](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=10959)).
2. Sanitation facilities, including restrooms and hand-wash stations, will be located within ¼ mile or five minutes' walking distance from the field.
3. One toilet and one hand-washing station will be provided for every 20 employees.
4. Toilet facilities will be easily accessible and stocked with toilet paper. Hand-washing facilities will be stocked with single-use disposable paper towels, soap, potable water, and a trash receptacle. This is recorded in Appendix 3.1 - Service and Cleaning Log for Sanitation Facilities.
5. Bilingual signs requiring employees to wash hands after using the restroom will be posted.
6. Toilet facility will have a cleaning checklist located inside that indicates each time the facility has been cleaned or restocked. This is recorded in Appendix 3.1 - Service and Cleaning Log for Sanitation Facilities.
7. Sanitary facilities will be directly accessible for septic truck servicing and will be located in an area where leakage or spills will not contaminate crops.
8. No waste from the sanitary facilities will be disposed of in the fields. In the event of a spill, all steps will be taken to minimize the likelihood of crop contamination. Refer to Emergency Response Plan for Spills/Leaks for Sanitary Facilities in Appendix 3.2.
9. All sanitary facilities will follow NC DENR rules and regulations for Septage Management section 800 (<http://www.wastenotnc.org/swhome/rules.asp>) "Septage" includes solid waste that is a fluid mixture of untreated and partially treated sewage solids, liquids, and sludge of human or domestic origin that is removed from a wastewater system. It includes washings from the interior of septage handling containers, including pumper trucks.

10. Farm sewage treatment and septic systems will be visually monitored daily by the farm manager for evidence of leaking or runoff, using the Daily Field Supervisor checklist found in Appendix 3.3.
11. In the event of a septic systems leakage, the Emergency Response Plan for Spills or Leaks in Sanitation Facilities (Appendix 3.2) will be used to document and contain contamination.
12. Septic systems, sewage treatment facilities, and stormwater discharge areas will be located and assessed for overflow potential.