



	<p>Title: Communal Wastewater System Management</p>
<p>Legal References: Municipal Government Act Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act Water Act Private Sewage Standard of Practice Guideline for Wastewater Irrigation (2000) Occupational Health and Safety Act</p>	<p>Policy Category: Infrastructure & Operations</p>
<p>Cross References: Policy 449 – Performance Requirements for Wastewater Treatment Systems Master Rates Bylaw</p>	<p>Effective Date: May 10, 2011 Revision Date:</p>
<p>Purpose: To define the County’s roles, responsibilities and practices regarding the ownership, operation and maintenance of communal wastewater treatment and collection systems including those that service multi-family and condominium developments.</p> <p>Definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Communal System” means a system for the treatment and/or disposal of sewage that includes a system of sewers, valves, fittings, pumping stations, and accessories that is used to collect wastewater and transfer it to a wastewater treatment plant that serves two or more sites. A communal system does not include private, on-site sewage treatment systems or pump and haul processes from holding tanks. • “County” means Rocky View County. • “Transfer Agreement” means an agreement supported by a Cost Feasibility and Sustainability Analysis that sets out the terms and timelines for the transfer of wastewater infrastructure and/or operational responsibility from one party to another. <p>Policy Statements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ownership, operation and maintenance of private sewage treatment systems shall be the responsibility of the landowner. 2. The ownership, operation and maintenance of communal systems developed by the County shall be the responsibility of the County. 3. The ownership, operation and maintenance of communal systems developed by others to service an approved development shall be the initial responsibility of the Developer and then transferred to the County at no cost on a deficiency free basis in accordance with the terms set out in a Transfer Agreement. 4. All previously obtained regulatory licenses, permits and approvals related to the communal system shall be transferred to the County upon turnover of the system by the Developer under Clause 3 of this policy. 5. Communal systems constructed by a Developer to service approved development shall be constructed at the sole cost of the Developer and in accordance with all municipal, provincial and federal regulatory guidelines and design requirements. 6. Any licenses, approvals or permits required under the Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act or the Water Act must be obtained prior to the construction of a communal system. 	

7. The Developer and the County shall operate communal systems in accordance with all applicable federal and provincial laws, regulations and standards, including, but not limited to, requirements under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, the Water Act and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
8. The County may, by open competition, contract the operation and maintenance of a communal system under its ownership and control to a qualified third party.
9. The wastewater treatment component of a communal system owned by the County shall be sited on public utility lots where the title is held by the County.
10. The collection and discharge conveyance components of a communal system owned by the County shall be sited within municipal road allowances under control of the County or within utility-rights-of-way granted to the County.
11. Sub-surface wastewater disposal from communal systems shall only occur on public utility lots where the title is held by the County.
12. Surface wastewater disposal (irrigation) from communal systems shall be carried out in accordance with Alberta Environment's Guideline for Municipal Wastewater Irrigation (2000) and shall only occur when the County has been granted access to land for the express purpose of wastewater irrigation.
13. Any discharge to a water body from a communal system shall only occur via an outfall that has been licensed and approved by Alberta Environment.
14. Any landowners or parties connected to a communal system shall be subject to the municipal bylaw on wastewater services.
15. The County shall develop a rate structure for inclusion into the Master Rates Bylaw for communal systems under its ownership and control that fully recovers operational and life-cycle costs from those benefitting from the service those systems provide.