Lift Station Components

Spill Reporting

Any spills or overflows from a LS should be reported to the EPC within 24 hrs of discovery at the number provided below.

EPC of Hillsborough County
813-627-2600

You may also contact your municipal authorities. Know your contact numbers.

City of Tampa Wastewater
813-259-1693
Hillsborough County Public Utilities
813-744-5600
City of Plant City
813-757-9172
City of Temple Terrace
813-506-6590

For spills estimated at 1,000 gallons or more, you must also report to FDEP at:
Florida DEP-State Watch Office
1-800-320-0519

If the audible or visible alarms are going off, then something is wrong and the LS may be overflowing. Report the overflow and contact a licensed plumber or your contract LS repair company.

Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County
3629 Queen Palm Drive
Tampa, FL 33619

The purpose of this guide is to provide assistance to property owners and managers in properly maintaining their private sewage pump station or lift station (LS).
What is a Lift Station (LS)?

A LS is a facility for elevating the wastewater (sewage) from your property or business and transporting it to a private or municipal treatment system. LS's consist of a below-grade wet well, pumps and floats, discharge piping, and an above ground control panel housing the electrical components, pump switches, and high-level emergency alarms.

Failing & Poorly Maintained Lift Stations

These are a primary source of sewage overflows in our community, resulting in potential public health hazards and environmental pollution. The EPC is delegated authority by the State of Florida to implement Chapter 62-604, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) in Hillsborough County. This may include inspection and monitoring of private sewage collection systems and LS's. Sewage discharges from private LS's to the environment constitute a violation of the applicable F.A.C. Rules, and the EPC Act.

Lift Station Maintenance

Please be advised that Chapter 62-604, F.A.C., and guidance documents referenced therein require a duplex pump station to have the following:

- Two pumps of the same size such that, with any unit out of service, the remaining unit will have the capacity to handle the design peak hourly flow.
- Visible and audible emergency alarms that function in the event of high levels within the wet well.
- Controlled access to prevent unauthorized entry by the public or animals.
- A control panel equipped with a surge protector.

Your LS should be routinely monitored for proper operation which should include at least a monthly visual inspection by the owner and/or property manager, and ideally, a quarterly or semi-annual inspection by a licensed plumber or LS repair company. Routine checks on the LS may identify problems before they result in overflows, such as breaker or electrical problems, high-level conditions, pump failures, and excessive grease problems, which may impair the pump floats. Most LS's are designed as duplex (two-pump) systems, each with a system of pump floats.

Lift Station Maintenance—cont.

Property Owners

It is in the best interest of the property owner and/or manager to properly maintain their LS. The property owner is ultimately responsible for proper operation of the LS. It is incumbent on the owner or designated representative to have the LS properly repaired in the event of a system failure. It is advised that a licensed plumber and/or LS repair company be used as there may be electrical hazards and/or public health hazards involved with a failing LS. You may also contact the appropriate municipality to report sewage overflows on your property that may be associated with county or city sewer lines.

*See contact numbers on back.