

# SENATE BILL 496

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CF 8lr2069

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By: **Senators Ready, Bates, Hough, and Salling**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Greywater – Residential Use**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a person to use a certain amount of greywater per day for  
4 certain residential purposes under certain circumstances; defining a certain term;  
5 and generally relating to the residential use of greywater.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Environment

8 Section 9–1112

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Environment**

14 **9–1112.**

15 **(A) IN THIS SECTION:**

16 **(1) “GREYWATER” MEANS USED, UNTREATED WATER GENERATED BY**  
17 **THE USE OF AND COLLECTED FROM:**

18 **(I) A CLOTHES WASHING MACHINE;**

19 **(II) A SHOWER;**

20 **(III) A BATHTUB; OR**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (IV) A LAVATORY SINK; AND

2 (2) "GREYWATER" DOES NOT INCLUDE WATER FROM:

3 (I) A TOILET;

4 (II) A KITCHEN SINK; OR

5 (III) A DISHWASHING MACHINE.

6 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON  
7 MAY USE UP TO 400 GALLONS OF GREYWATER PER DAY FOR THE FOLLOWING  
8 RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES:

9 (I) HOUSEHOLD GARDENING;

10 (II) COMPOSTING;

11 (III) LAWN WATERING;

12 (IV) LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION; OR

13 (V) FLUSHING OF A CONVENTIONAL TOILET OR URINAL.

14 (2) A PERSON MAY USE GREYWATER IF:

15 (I) THE GREYWATER ORIGINATES FROM A RESIDENCE ON THE  
16 SITE ON WHICH THE GREYWATER IS TO BE APPLIED;

17 (II) THE GREYWATER IS CONTAINED IN A STORAGE TANK THAT  
18 IS LOCATED ON THE SITE ON WHICH THE GREYWATER IS TO BE APPLIED;

19 (III) HUMAN CONTACT WITH GREYWATER AND SOIL IRRIGATED  
20 BY GREYWATER IS AVOIDED;

21 (IV) SURFACE APPLICATION OF GREYWATER IS NOT USED FOR  
22 IRRIGATION OF FOOD PLANTS THAT HAVE AN EDIBLE PORTION THAT COMES IN  
23 DIRECT CONTACT WITH GREYWATER;

24 (V) THE GREYWATER DOES NOT CONTAIN HAZARDOUS  
25 CHEMICALS DERIVED FROM ANY ACTIVITY, INCLUDING:

1                   1.     CLEANING MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS;

2                   2.     WASHING GREASY OR OILY RAGS; OR

3                   3.     DISPOSING OF WASTE SOLUTIONS FROM HOME  
4 PHOTO LAB ACTIVITIES OR SIMILAR HOBBYIST OR HOME OCCUPATIONAL  
5 ACTIVITIES;

6                   (VI) THE APPLICATION OF GREYWATER IS MANAGED TO  
7 MINIMIZE STANDING WATER ON THE SURFACE OF THE GROUND;

8                   (VII) THE GREYWATER SYSTEM IS CONSTRUCTED TO PROVIDE  
9 FOR OVERFLOW INTO A SEWERAGE SYSTEM OR AN ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
10 SYSTEM;

11                  (VIII) FOR A GREYWATER STORAGE TANK LOCATED OUTDOORS,  
12 THE GREYWATER STORAGE TANK IS COVERED TO RESTRICT ACCESS AND TO  
13 ELIMINATE HABITAT FOR MOSQUITOES AND OTHER VECTORS;

14                  (IX) THE GREYWATER SYSTEM IS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE  
15 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN;

16                  (X) THE GREYWATER SYSTEM IS OPERATED TO MAINTAIN A  
17 MINIMUM VERTICAL SEPARATION OF AT LEAST 5 FEET FROM THE POINT OF  
18 GREYWATER APPLICATION TO THE TOP OF THE SEASONALLY HIGH GROUNDWATER  
19 TABLE;

20                  (XI) ANY PRESSURE PIPING USED IN A GREYWATER SYSTEM  
21 THAT MAY BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO CROSS CONNECTION WITH A POTABLE WATER  
22 SYSTEM CLEARLY INDICATES THAT THE PIPING DOES NOT CARRY POTABLE WATER;

23                  (XII) GREYWATER APPLIED BY SURFACE IRRIGATION DOES NOT  
24 CONTAIN WATER USED TO WASH DIAPERS OR SIMILARLY SOILED OR INFECTIOUS  
25 GARMENTS UNLESS THE GREYWATER IS DISINFECTED BEFORE IRRIGATION;

26                  (XIII) SURFACE IRRIGATION BY GREYWATER IS CONDUCTED ONLY  
27 BY FLOOD IRRIGATION OR DRIP IRRIGATION;

28                  (XIV) THE GREYWATER IS NOT SPRAYED; AND

29                  (XV) THE GREYWATER USE IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY  
30 APPLICABLE LOCAL LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

31                  SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

1 October 1, 2018.