

Telluride Regional WWTP Septage Policy 2026

Overview

The Telluride Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (TRWWTP) has a longstanding history of accepting septage and raw sewage and aims to maintain this service in the future. We are committed to ensuring that our community continues to receive this essential service; however, the sustainability of this privilege may be challenged by increasing pressures on the wastewater system stemming from local development, events, and new regulatory requirements.

Annually, the TRWWTP processes over 250,000 gallons of septage. This includes waste from port-a-potties, buses, and recreational vehicles (RVs), as well as waste extracted from residential septic systems. The waste from port-a-potties and septic tanks is classified as high strength and has the potential to disrupt the treatment process due to shock loading. Consequently, all port-a-potty and septic waste is currently stored in a dedicated septage frac tank on-site, which is then transported directly to a composting facility for further processing. In contrast, RVs and buses are permitted to discharge their waste into a manhole located just outside the wastewater treatment facility, which is directly connected to the plant without any flow attenuation. These measures significantly enhance process control by redirecting high-strength waste and mitigating potential disruptions at the wastewater treatment plant. The following Operating Guidelines are designed to assist users in utilizing the TRWWTP septage receiving station. The facility is under surveillance, and any misuse of the septage receiving station will result in the revocation of privileges. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us sustain this service for the future.

Operating Guidelines

RV's and Tour Bus Dumping

The septage receiving station operates from Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, and is closed on weekends, Town holidays, and designated blackout dates. RVs and Buses are permitted to access the septage receiving station by opening the manhole located in front of the wastewater treatment plant at 12000 Hwy 145. Users are required to contact the front desk to settle the applicable fee (refer to the details below). Non-potable water is available for RVs to clean their systems and address spills; however, trash disposal and potable water services are unavailable at the TRWWTP.

Septic and Port-a-potty Dumping – Septage Frac Tank

Septic and port-a-potty waste haulers must establish prior arrangements with the TRWWTP to create an account before dumping. It is essential that all users of the septage frac tank complete an annual training video and ensure their hauler trucks are equipped with the appropriate pump and hose connections, and proper tools. Haulers are responsible for monitoring the pump pressure to detect any clogs in the pipes and checking the frac tank level gauge before dumping. Any sewage remaining in the hose must be vacuumed back into the truck to prevent spills. Any spills or misuse of the septage frac tank must be cleaned up at the hauler's expense and may lead to the termination or suspension of their dumping privileges.

All haulers are required to inform the front desk of the total gallons dumped to obtain a dumping ticket along with the associated fee. An invoice will be issued at the end of each month for payment to the Town of Telluride WWTP. The operating hours are Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Any dumping outside of these hours must be prearranged with the TRWWTP, with the understanding that haulers must provide timed tickets and photographs of the gallons deposited; otherwise, the TRWWTP will assume that each truckload is full at the time of deposit.

Black Out Dates

The following dates are typically problematic for the TRWWTP to accept septage due to events in the immediate region. Therefore, the TRWWTP will not accept loads from any RV's, Buses, or Septic Haulers not associated with those events. Emergency situations can typically be accommodated, but please call first to arrange.

June 13th through July 5th

December 19th through January 10th

Town Holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and the next day, Christmas

Fees (2026)

Fees may be paid by cash, check, or credit card in person at the TRWWTP at the time of dumping. Total payment for per gallon fees is based on truck capacity.

RV Dump Fees and Groovers.....	\$30.00
Tour Bus Dump Fees	\$30.00
Septic Truck & Raw Sewage Dump Fees ...	\$0.37/gallon**
Port-a-potty Haul Companies	\$0.31/gallon**
Carpet Cleaning Waste	\$0.31/gallon

***Groovers" are portable toilets typically used by river rafters. Due to misuse of the septage receiving station, groovers are to be charged at the full RV dump rate effective in 2026 during operating hours only. ***

***Haulers for the following festivals must obtain a separate contract with the Town of Telluride: Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Fourth of July Activities, Telluride Jazz Festival, and Telluride Blues and Brews Festival. Festivals haulers must also provide the Town with a back-up plan as the TRWWTP reserves the right to refuse waste if the septage frac tank is full or at risk of spilling and/or the wastewater plant is at risk of breaking State Discharge Permit limits.*

Contact Information & Hours

Main Office: 970-728-6075

12000 Hwy 145 by appointment only

Septage Receiving Station **Open** Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM only