



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DPH Environmental Engineering Program June 2, 2011 Code Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

Sign-in, Guest Introduction & CAC Member Updates

- CADH
- CEHA: 2-Day Soil Training Workshop (October 19 – 20, 2011) co-sponsored by DPH
- COWRA: Formation of Subsurface Sewage Disposal System (SSDS) Inspection Committee
- CT HBA
- DEP: Draft General Permit for SSDSs @ Existing Facilities moving towards public notice
- Professional Engineers (CT Engineers in Private Practice, CSPE, CSCE): 5/26/11 CSCE Seminar
- Soil Scientist

Legislative Updates

- House Bill (HB) No. 5473, An Act Requiring the Inspection of Septic Systems
- HB No. 6106, An Act Concerning Temporary Additions to Private Residences
- HB No. 5864, An Act Concerning License and Certification Reciprocity
- HB No. 1143, An Act Concerning Environmental Health
- Senate Bill (SB) No. 204, An Act Exempting the White Memorial Foundation from Certain DEP Requirements
- SB No. 896, An Act Making Procedural Changes to the Site Plan and Subdivision Application Process

Technical Standards Matters

- **New Technical Standards:** DPH published January 1, 2011 Revisions to the Technical Standards, and conducted 8 regional seminars to review/explain revisions. B100a relief provided for some building additions due to MLSS revisions. DPH developing additional MLSS guidance and follow-up training. Two particular items will be clarified: Firstly, the language in the MLSS appendix stipulates that for repairs that can't meet the new system MLSS (natural soil only) the leaching systems shall provide the maximum percent possible of the non-compliant repair (NCR) MLSS based on a receiving soil depth of 18 – 22 inches. It will be clarified that this would apply when there is less than 22 inches of naturally occurring soil. If there is more than 22 inches of naturally occurring soil the leaching system spread shall provide the maximum percent possible of the MLSS calculated based on the depth of naturally occurring soil. Secondly, it is acceptable to discount some or all of the natural soil depth if it is preferable as is the case with some sites that have naturally occurring soil that has a percolation rate slower than 20 minutes per inch.
- **Leaching System Ratings:** DPH review of comments and literature supports additional rating limitations of internal biomats to ensure leaching systems avoid failure due to organic overload. Concrete pre-casters and proprietary leaching system companies to receive notice about proposed changes to the rating system. Proposed changes to be provided to CAC for discussion.
- **Appendix B:** Appendix B (Approved Effluent Filter List) Revised May 5, 2011 to include Bear Onsite & Polylok Best Filters.
- **Appendix D:** Appendix D (Approved Non-concrete Septic Tanks) Revised April 7, 2011 to include new Infiltrator IM-1060 tank.

New Product & System Approvals

- **Geomatrix Systems, LLC:** DPH re-issued the approval for the S-Box proprietary leaching systems on March 14, 2011.

Phone: (860) 509-7296



Telephone Device for the Deaf: (860) 509-7191

410 Capitol Avenue - MS # **51-SEW**

P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134

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- **Eljen Corporation:** DPH approved the Mantis 536-8 & 536-8 LowPro proprietary leaching systems on March 24, 2011. New Mantis products replace existing Mantis 430 series products.
- **Infiltrator Systems, Inc.:** DPH approved the IM-1060 septic tank and use of tank as pump chamber on April 7, 2011. DPH approved the use of the currently approved TW Series septic tanks for use as pump chambers on May 5, 2011.
- **Bear Onsite Filters:** DPH approved 4 effluent filters on May 5, 2011, and company and filters added to Appendix B.
- **Polylok, Inc.:** DPH approved 2 Best Effluent Filters on May 5, 2011 and filters added to Appendix B.

New Items

- **Pipeline, Summer 2011 Article:** Buying or Selling a Home with an Onsite Wastewater System
- **Environmental Hazards in the Home:** Guidance document prepared by DPH & CT Association of Realtors, Inc. (16,000 members). The 2011 revision includes a section on septic systems.
- **Real Estate Transaction SSDS Inspection Form:** *Connecticut Recommended Minimum Existing Septic System Inspection Report* developed in 2001 by a CEHA organized committee that included CAC and other (Home Inspectors & Realtors) organizations. DPH is interested in updating the form that is currently 5-pages to make it more streamlined, user friendly and succinct. Reference to the form is made in the CT Association of Realtors' testimony on HB 5473.
- **NOWRA Executive Director Guest Commentary:** Eric Casey's article *Raise Awareness and Funds to Promote Use of Onsite Systems* appeared in the May 2011 edition of Pumper Magazine.
- **Central Sewage System Application Form:** Final draft application form distributed to CAC.
- **Free Trade Concerns:** A proprietary leaching system company has recently restricted use of their systems in a certain geographical area of the state, which has raised free trade concerns per CGS Section 35-28. DPH is seeking additional guidance on matter.
- **2013 – 2018 State Conservation & Development Plan:** OPM started process to revise C & D plan, and draft plan to be submitted to legislative committee by September 1, 2011. Current C & D plan (2005 – 2010) includes Growth Management Principles (GMP) and GMP #4 has a subsection on rural area development that supports sewer avoidance programs and other management measures. Suggestions on revisions to the C & D plan related to decentralized sewage matters welcome.
- **DPH's Drinking Water Section's February 17, 2011 Letter to WPCAs:** Correspondence concerns external grease interceptor tanks and piping connections to public sewer systems relative to water supply wells. Grease removal systems being installed to comply w/ DEP's 2005 General Permit.
- **Approved Septic Tank Precaster List:** List of 18 approved precasters added to program website.
- **Closed Loop Geo-exchange Systems:** Technical Standards' Table No. 1, Item P cites minimum separating distances (50' to Leaching System, 25' to tight tanks) between SSDSs and boreholes and trench systems (horizontal loop systems). Item P also stipulates a minimum 10 foot separating distance between the geo-exchange piping from the building and the borehole or trench system. A recently formed geothermal contractors' association (CT Geothermal, Chapter of IGSHPA) has contacted DPH, and they believe the 50 foot minimum separation distance between leaching systems and trench systems is overly restrictive. DPH provided comments on DCP's draft regulations concerning Well Drilling and Geothermal Systems. Public Hearing held on December 14, 2010, and DCP has made additional changes to the proposed regulation based on comments received.
- **Required Withdrawal Rate (RWR):** Both PHC Section 19-13-B51d and Technical Standards' Table 1 refer to the "required withdrawal rate" of a water supply well in order to establish the minimum separating distance from SSDSs. Recently it has been debated as to whether a water supply well's pump capacity at the stabilized drawdown rate can exceed the RWR. Feedback to be requested from DPH's Private Well Program and Drinking Water Section to determine if clarification is needed from DPH or if revisions to above codes are warranted.