

## **ALASKA**

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<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/>  
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/dmww/dmww.htm>

Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Regulations  
18 AAC 72  
Amended July 11, 2002

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/regulations/pdfs/72mas.pdf>

As of March 2006, the State of Alaska had just completed a revision of the Plan Review Checklists and Certified Installers Manual. These revisions will become effective in 2007.

Performance based codes are followed in the selection of minimum treatment technologies. Surface discharge must receive secondary treatment and subsurface must receive primary treatment and discharge to a soil absorption system. Any new technology must undergo plan review and approval. Applicants must show that the system has a history of meeting the minimum treatment and permit requirement of the state's regulation, 18 AAC 72. In some cases a technology plan may require review from the Technology Review Committee.

Management programs/contracts are recognized in the State of Alaska to monitor and maintain onsite systems or individual septic dispersal systems. Local governments are able to request and be delegated authority to manage the individual onsite disposal program. Currently existing management programs in operation include the Municipality of Anchorage and Valdez.

The State of Alaska does require onsite professionals to be certified. Professionals must attend a certification class and complete an examination; a refresher course is also required every two years. Site evaluations are conducted by Certified Installers, Registered Engineers and Certified Homeowner Builders, prior to the installation. Certified Installers can rate typical soil types; a sample of the soil can be taken to a soil lab for analysis and rating using the Uniform Soils Classification. An engineer can also rate the soil visually as well as perform a percolation test. Onsite systems that are conventional, septic tank soil absorption system, do not require a permit to be installed. The engineer or Certified Installer must submit a documentation of construction form after the system has been completed.

If an inspection is requested by the homeowner, a Registered Engineer performs the inspection; approximate costs for this inspection are in the \$500 range.

Permits issued for new construction, repair of existing system, and/or upgrade or modification of systems are not tracked within the State of Alaska. Alternative/experimental/innovative technologies are permitted, however all of these technologies must go through a plan review process and be approved for construction and operation; requiring a different permit from other conventional technologies.

In Alaska, SRF monies can be used to assist individual homeowners to: repair a failing or malfunctioning system; replace a failing or malfunctioning system; or construct a new onsite wastewater treatment system. Contact Dan Garner for more information at telephone number (907) 465-5144.

Onsite training programs are available in the State of Alaska. For information on the Certified Installer Training Program contact Bill Smythe using the information provided above. There are no current ongoing demonstrations and/or research in Alaska.