

INDIANA

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<http://www.in.gov/isdh/regsvcs/saneng/default.htm>



Residential Sewage Disposal Systems
Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1
December 1990

http://www.in.gov/isdh/regsvcs/saneng/pdf_s/410_IAC_6_8_1.pdf

Commercial Onsite Wastewater Disposal
Rule 410 IAC 6-10
July 1, 1996

http://www.in.gov/isdh/regsvcs/saneng/pdf_s/410_iac6_10.pdf

As of June 1, 2006, no new revisions to the regulations were being made. Also, no plans to revise the existing codes/regulations have been made.

Technologies that are not listed within the Indiana Code may be used following Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1- Section 31 (g) allows for the “development of new or more efficient sewage treatment or disposal processes”. Protocols are developed to outline the standards and minimum requirements for the use of “experimental” equipment.

Technologies approved for use in Indiana for onsite wastewater treatment and disposal include:

- Conventional—Subsurface aggregate trench systems using gravity flow; alternating fields, flood dose, and pressure distribution; elevated sand mound systems; and aerobic treatment units discharging to an approved absorption field.
- Experimental—Subsurface trench systems using chambers and corrugated tubing with a fabric sock, Type 2 modified elevated sand mounds, at-grade systems, subsurface drip irrigation, and packed bed filters using sand and gravel media, textile media, foam cube media, and peat.

Other technologies may be considered under certain circumstances. First, the technology must utilize soil absorption, treatment, and dispersal of the final effluent rather than surface discharge. Second, the manufacturer must submit design standards, operation and maintenance requirements, and data on system performance for review and approval. All onsite wastewater regulations apply statewide and can be made more stringent upon approval by the state.

There are no management programs in the State of Indiana. There are no plans to develop any onsite sewage system management regulations within the next year—there are ongoing program elements to develop more educational outreach information for system owners. Indiana Code grants the authority to counties to form onsite management districts. That authority is not yet reflected in state regulations. That state code does not mandate the formation of management districts, nor does it dictate which types of systems must be managed if a management district is formed.

Indiana requires certifications for Soil Scientists. Currently it is uncertain if this certification has a renewable status. For more information, please contact Mr. Dunn at the above address. Site evaluation includes both the soil profile observation and the site characteristic evaluation to determine system feasibility. The soil profile observation must be performed and documented by a local health department staff or an Indiana Registered Soil Scientist or certified Soil Scientist. The system feasibility for the site is developed by the designer/installer and reviewed by the local health department staff for compliance with the State Rule. For site evaluations a soil characterization is required. The soil description includes:

- The soil evaluated at the site to a depth of 5 ft or until a layer is encountered which cannot be readily penetrated, whichever is shallower,
- The soil being described in a direct soil profile observation using the guidelines set forth in the soil manuals, technical bulletins, and handbooks of the SCS,
- Soil characteristics in approximate depths of soil horizons, and
- Soil color, structure, and texture at each horizon.

Several other items as outlined in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-48. All residential permits are issued at the local health department (LHD) level. LHD may request technical assistance from the Indiana State Department of Health staff on complex or complicated cases but the ISDH will only issue a letter documenting compliance of plan submittal meeting the minimum requirements of the State Rule. The property owner **MUST** obtain a local permit before they can install the proposed system. Periodic inspections are required by the State for investigating the performance and operation of onsite systems. In some counties, the local health department will provide the inspection. In other counties, the homeowner must contract with a home inspection service or an installer for the inspection. If the local health department conducts the inspection, there is typically no fee. When a homeowner contracts with someone in the private sector, the homeowner must pay the fee associated with the service. Inspectors are not required to be certified by the state.

Site evaluations must be conducted before installing onsite systems by a certified soil scientist or the local health department. Most local health departments require the evaluation by the soil scientist. Percolation tests and soil characterization is required as part of the site evaluation. The state will consider third party certification as long as the testing is equivalent to NSF testing.

The permit must come from the local health department –consistent with conventional technologies BUT the **plan review** must be processed through the state agency until the technology has been delegated to the local level. An experimental system will include **state** plan review. It will still have **local** permit issuance. The State of Indiana does not track these permits. Permits are issued for construction of new, the repair of existing, and for the upgrade or modification of onsite systems. Permits issued at the state level are entered into a state database; however, permits from the local level are not tracked. Permits are issued from the local level for the following conditions: for one and two family dwellings using systems permitted in state rule, small commercial systems delegated to the local level, and for experimental systems delegated to the local level. Permits are issued for the state level for the following conditions: for experimental systems not delegated to the local level and for large commercial and small commercial systems not delegated to the local level.

Different permits are required for alternative/experimental/innovative technologies. Permits must be issued by the State department of health for these technologies unless the technology has been delegated to the local level for review and approval.

Currently, there are no funding programs or mechanisms to assist homeowners replacing failing systems or installing new systems, and there are currently no plans to develop such a mechanism. No counties or communities have a revolving loan fund or other financial assistance program for individual homeowners. Contact Mr. Dunn to answer any additional questions.

Onsite wastewater demonstration, research, or testing projects are ongoing in the state. Questions may be directed to:

Mr. Brad Lee, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Agronomy
Purdue University
1150 Lilly Hall of Life Sciences
West Lafayette, **Indiana** 47907-1150
(765) 496-6884
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Or

Mr. Greg Oliphant, PhD,
Environmental Geology Section
Indiana Geological Survey
611 North Walnut Grove
Bloomington, **Indiana** 47405
(812) 855-135
Olyphant@indiana.edu

Training and Examination for Installers for Certification, Licensure, and Registration has been added by the Indiana Onsite Wastewater Professional's Association, Inc. (IOWPA). Contact the persons for information regarding this program and enrollment into these classes:

Mr. Todd Trinkle, President
PMB #188
133 West Market St.
Indianapolis, **Indiana** 46204-2801
<http://www.iowpa.org/>

OR for Training for Local Health Department and for Installers contact:

Indiana State Department of Health
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To contact Indiana's Environmental Health Association:

Mr. Richard Wise, President
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