



MICHIGAN

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<http://www.michigan.gov/deq>

The State of Michigan does not have a State-wide Regulatory Statute for Onsite Wastewater Systems. For information regarding onsite wastewater systems, please contact the individuals listed above.

Those technologies approved for use in Michigan for onsite wastewater treatment and disposal include conventional systems, mounds, sand filters, aerobic systems, textile filters, foam cube filters, constructed wetlands, chamber systems, and lagoons. There are no statewide criteria to allow any technology not listed above; single- and two-family systems are at the discretion of local health departments. For other than single- and two-family dwellings, public and/or industrial/commercial systems discharging <10,000 gpd to a subsurface dispersal system may be considered for a variance or pursue the option of a formal groundwater discharge permit from the Department.

Per State administrative rules, all public and/or industrial/commercial systems are required to be operated by a properly certified operator and reported to MDEQ. Agreements required by local governing bodies for small public community systems not owned by the governing body may also dictate O&M requirements. MDEQ, however, does not currently provide adequate regulatory oversight, especially for small systems.

State required maintenance/management programs are being discussed. Available resources are a continuing stumbling block.

The State does not require regular performance and operation inspections of onsite systems after initial construction, but a number of local health departments have required maintenance contracts for certain types of alternative systems. If a homeowner requests

an inspection, where programs are in place, inspections are typically provided by the local health department staff or by inspectors certified by the local health department.

The State does not require onsite professionals to be certified. The State Agency tracks permits for new construction and repair of existing systems; however, permits for upgrades or modifications are not tracked. For more information please contact:

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No funding program or mechanism exists in the state to assist homeowners replacing failing systems or installing new systems, and there are no plans to develop such a mechanism within the next year.

At this time, there are no currently active onsite wastewater demonstration, research, or testing projects in Michigan.