



## ***WEST VIRGINIA***

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<http://www.wvdhhr.org/phs/sewage/index.asp>

WV CSR 64, Series 9 Sewage Rules May 1998

<http://www.wvsos.com/csr/verify.asp?TitleSeries=64-09>

WV CSR 64, Series 47 Sewage Design Standards July 2003

<http://www.wvsos.com/csr/verify.asp?TitleSeries=64-47>

Onsite regulations for West Virginia were last amended in May 1998 and July 2003. Currently, neither of these regulations are under review nor will they be under review by June 30, 2007.

Currently, West Virginia does not follow performance based codes for the selection of any (or all) technologies; however, the state is trying to get a product verification protocol into place. Technologies not listed in the current State Code may be allowed conditionally by sewage program policy only. Normally, unlisted technologies are reserved for repair of failing systems.

West Virginia Code does require management programs/contracts or districts to monitor and maintain onsite systems or individual liquid waste systems, mostly for surface discharging systems, or systems where additional treatment is required. Currently, there

are three counties within the State of West Virginia that are considering implementing or instituting a countywide onsite management district.

The State of West Virginia requires that onsite professionals be certified. Class I Certification is required for the installation of conventional gravity systems; a Class II Certification is required for all alternatives. These certifications are required to be renewed every 5 years.

All new installations are inspected by the County Health Sanitarian. Inspection of new installations are free; however, if a homeowner requests an inspection, the local health department and/or private evaluator performing the inspection will generally charge a fee of \$35.00. Almost all counties charge a fee for the evaluation. The local health departments in 39 out of the 55 counties, and private inspectors in the other counties do any inspections conducted. The remaining 16 counties have private inspectors and/or individuals to conduct these inspections. Onsite inspectors are not required to be certified. Site evaluations are also conducted by the local health departments. Percolation tests and soil characterization tests are required as part of the site evaluation. Certified installers either Class I or Class II perform initial site evaluations and percolation tests. The County Sanitarian then evaluates the results for permit potential. The soil evaluation process is for determining the depth to bedrock or the seasonal high water table. Detailed soil characterization is not required.

Permits are issued, and kept track of, for new construction, repair of existing system and for an upgrade or modification of onsite systems. Permits for subsurface discharge with flows at 3,000 gpd or less, are issued by the local health department. For surface discharges over/under 600 gpd, the state health departments issue the permits. The State will consider third party certification when protocol is finally put into place. Alternative/experimental/innovative technologies require different permits in some cases, mostly with surface discharge.

No funding program exists statewide to assist homeowners either replacing a failing system or installing a new one, nor are there any state revolving funds or other financing options available to homeowners.

West Virginia does have onsite wastewater demonstration, research and testing projects, as well as onsite training programs ongoing in the state. Onsite training programs include: Sanitation Training, Class I and Class II Septic Tank Installer Training, and Onsite Inspector Training. The facility, housing both programs, is located at the Chestnut Ridge Regional Park, in Monongalia County, WV. Contact Mr. Clement Solomon at (304)-293-4191 ext. 5566 or Mr. Hertges at the address listed above for information regarding both programs.