



## **Technical Standards Revision Process and Code Advisory Committee**

Section 19-13-B103d (b) of the Regulations of CT State Agencies authorizes the Department of Public Health (DPH) to publish and revise *Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems* (Technical Standards). A subsurface sewage disposal system is commonly known as a septic system and it is considered a decentralized sewage system along with other on-site systems (e.g., cesspools, alternative treatment systems). The Technical Standards originally applied to sites with design sewage flows of 5,000 gallons per day (GPD) or less, however recent legislation (Public Act 17-146 Section 30) raised the flow limit to 7,500 GPD effective July 1, 2017. Sewage disposal systems governed by the Technical Standards are estimated to represent more than 95% of all on-site sewage disposal systems in CT, and they serve approximately 40% of the state's population; whereas centralized sewage systems (a.k.a., public sewers) serve the remaining population. The Technical Standards are reviewed annually, and revisions, if any, are made available on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The Technical Standards were first published in 1982 and they have been revised twelve times, most recently on January 1, 2018.

DPH convened a Code Advisory Committee (CAC) of stakeholder organizations to assist in establishing the Technical Standards, and the first CAC meeting occurred in 1980. CAC meetings are typically held several times per year, and more numerous meetings are held during the year prior to the publication of the next Technical Standard revision. The CAC meetings provide a forum to vet and discuss proposed standard revisions and decentralized sewage system related matters. In addition to DPH, the following organizations and disciplines are currently represented on the CAC:

- CT Association of Directors of Health
- CT Association of Water Pollution Control Authorities
- CT Environmental Health Association
- CT On-site Wastewater Recycling Association
- CT Water Well Association
- Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
- Home Builders & Remodelers Association of CT
- Professional Engineers
- Soil Scientists

CAC meetings are open to the public and meeting agendas and summaries of proposed revisions are posted on the program's website: [www.ct.gov/dph/subsurfacesewage](http://www.ct.gov/dph/subsurfacesewage). Current and historic Technical Standards are also available on the website. Comments and suggestions on revisions to the Technical Standards can be provided to DPH, and can be sent electronically to the Department's Environmental Engineering Program's email address: [dph.environmentalengineering@ct.gov](mailto:dph.environmentalengineering@ct.gov).

P/RWS/Technical Standards Revision Process & CAC

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