

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Commissioner

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Environmental Health Section

DPH Environmental Engineering Program **March 21, 2013 Code Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting**

Meeting Sign-in and CAC Member Representation Changes & Updates

- CADH:
- CEHA: October 23 – 24, 2013 Soils Training Workshop @ DEEP's Sessions Woods facility in Burlington, CT.
- COWRA: October 28, 2012 Letter to DEEP Commissioner Esty concerning decentralized sewage system matters.
- HB & RA of CT: New member and new name for expanded association now representing both home builders and remodelers. Johnny Carrier, PE replaces George Smilas, PE representing the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of CT
- DEEP: Draft General Permit for Low Flow Water Treatment Discharges. Scope expanded to cover discharges up to 500 gallons per day from private and public water supply treatment systems. February 28, 2013 DPH & DEEP meeting with DCP & Piping & Plumbing Board. Minimum separation distances to septic systems & water supply wells.
- Professional Engineers (CEPP, CSPE, CSCE)
- Soil Scientists
- CT Association of WPCAs: Accepted invitation to join CAC. Ms. Robbie Marshall appointed organization representative.

Legislative Updates

- Connecticut General Assembly web link: <http://www.cga.ct.gov/>
- House Bill (HB) 5203: Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG) Task Force to examine improper disposal of FOG in public sewer systems.
- HB 6439: Prohibits Health Care Institutions from disposing of unused medications into septic systems.
- SB 352: Expands authority of municipal WPCAs to include septic tanks on private property.
- HB 5809: CWSRF \$ for low interest loan program for septic system repairs & replacements.
- Senate Bill (SB) 963: Extends expiration dates of valid on-site sewage system (<5,000 GPD) permits & approvals issued before 7/1/11 to 9 years, and ties such approvals to Site Plan, Subdivision & Re-subdivision approvals issued by Inland Wetland, Zoning and Planning agencies.
- Stormwater bills: 705 & 5477 - Provides municipal stormwater authorities certain corporate powers, 5819 - Authorizes WPCAs to issue bonds for the purpose of stormwater management
- Climate Change & Seal Level Rise Bills: 1010 - Sea level rise consideration factor for CWSRF projects, 1013 - Climate change adaptation & data collection requires DEEP & UConn to prepare report on the establishment of a CT Center of Coasts and sea level rise matters (E & S, sea walls, storm impacts, etc.), 1014 - Revision to the Rise in Sea Level definition to include a projected rise of 2 – 5 inches per decade for municipal planning and zoning agencies.
- Water Supply Bills: 1035 - Study the feasibility of reorganizing the regulation of water companies from DPH to Public Utility Regulatory Authority, 807 - Concerns DPH's authority over public water systems/sources & water companies



If you require aid or accommodation to participate fully and fairly in this meeting, please phone (860) 509-7296

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Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employee

Shoreline Preservation Task Force

- Task force overview of concerns & observations about the potential impacts of sea level rise and storms on septic systems by task force member David Sutherland. Related item: New FEMA flood maps.

DCP Draft Geothermal System Regulations

- In November of 2012 DPH meet with the CT Water Well Association & the CT Geothermal Association to discuss siting issues for closed-loop geothermal systems. DPH subsequently met with DCP to offer comments on the draft regulations, and DPH provided DCP revised recommendations (attachment) for the siting of closed-loop geothermal systems.

Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Matters

- **Phosphorous Nonpoint Source Pollution & P.A. 12-155:** This item was on the agenda of the previous CAC meeting held on October 25, 2012, and it noted DEEP announced two initial meetings to discuss the requirements of the legislation. The topic of the first meeting (11/28/12) was the state-wide response to address phosphorous nonpoint source pollution. Staff from DPH's Environmental Engineering Program attended the meeting and provided comments (attached) to DEEP.
- **NPS Management Program Plan:** DEEP has indicated that the statewide NPS Management Program Plan is to be updated in 2013. DPH requested decentralized sewage stakeholder organizations be invited to participate.
- **Stormwater & Low Impact Development (LID) Matters:** DEEP has indicated that a green infrastructure/LID conference is planned for 2013. DPH has requested involvement to ensure decentralized sewage system matters are properly addressed. Proposed on-site Stormwater infiltration systems need to be reviewed and approved by local health departments to confirm compliance with the minimum separation distances cited in Table 1 of the Technical Standards, and compliance with PHC Section 19-13-B100a (e) Sewage Disposal Area Preservation: Code-complying area preservation/no reduction in potential repair area. Stormwater infiltration systems are cited in Item G of Table 1 along with groundwater drains, and the minimum separation distances are 25' and 50' depending upon location of the infiltration system or drain. The latter distance is for systems and drains located downgradient of septic systems. Potential revisions to the Technical Standards for some latitude w/ siting relatively minor storm infiltration systems such as rain gardens. Siting large stormwater infiltration systems can represent a concern from a hydraulic loading standpoint, and further review of siting requirements need to be conducted and future revisions to the Technical Standards are possible. Section IX of the Technical Standards is to be revised to note that porous pavement is not a stormwater infiltration system for the purposes of separation distance compliance. Separating distance requirements to stormwater collection structures (catch basins) to be further discussed with CAC. More information on stormwater and LID practices can be found at the following DEEP web link: [Stormwater/LID Link](#)

Conservation and Development Plan

- **Revised Draft of the 2013 – 2018 Conservation and Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut.** OPM formally submitted the Draft 2013-2018 C & D plan to the Continuing Legislative Committee on State Planning and Development, and the committee held a public hearing on the plan on February 22, 2013. DPH sent OPM comments (attached) on the revised draft.

Leaching System Effective Leaching Area (ELA) Ratings

- Preliminary ELA rating protocol changes discussed at previous CAC meetings:
 - 1) The sidewall and internal interface credit height will be raised from pipe invert to the 3/4 point up the pipe.
 - 2) Competing bio-mats less than 1/2 inch apart will not receive any credit, and competing bio-mats between 1/2 inch and 2 inches apart will receive 50% credit.
 - 3) Internal interface credits will be limited based on the bottom sand area available for internal loading.

- For discussion purposes, DPH prepared an excel spreadsheet for leaching products receiving internal interface ELA credit. The spreadsheet lists the current ELA product credit along with the credits for sidewall, bottom and internal interfaces. The spreadsheet also lists the approximate bottom sand area available for internal loading. The spreadsheet allows for the introduction of a factor that would limit the internal interface credit based on the amount of bottom sand area available for internal loading. The spreadsheet recalculates the product ELA credit once a factor is introduced. A factor of zero results in a credit solely based on bottom and sidewall credit only. Correspondence concerning ELA rating protocols to be sent to concrete pre-casters, proprietary leaching system companies, and entities that previously provided DPH comments on ELA rating matters. The spreadsheet is to be expanded to include all approved leaching, not just ones receiving internal interface credits, and it will identify other credit impacts if the rating protocols in above items 1 & 2 are made. The CAC will be copied on the correspondence and it will be posted on DPH's web site.
- ELA rating protocol changes will also discuss crediting of the upper few inches of products that are below the product credited height cited in above item 1.

Septic System Pump-out Applications

- PHC Section 19-13-B103c (c) stipulates septic system pump-outs require an application to and permit from the local health department. DPH developing application/permit template. Electronic application and permitting to be further discussed.

Draft 1/1/14 Revisions to the *Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems* (Technical Standards)

- Draft list of revisions being compiled and to be distributed to CAC and posted on DPH website. Revisions to be discussed at future CAC meeting.