



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DPH Environmental Engineering Program

June 14, 2012 Code Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

Meeting Sign-in and CAC Member Representation Changes & Updates

- CADH: Rick Matheny retiring & leaving CAC, Dave Knauf joining CAC
- CEHA:
- COWRA:
- CT HBA
- DEEP: New General Permit for Existing Septic Systems (agenda item)
- Professional Engineers (CEPP, CSPE, CSCE)
- Soil Scientists

Legislative Updates

- Public Act (PA) No. 12-11 (An Act Concerning (AAC) Public Right to Know of a Sewage Spill) requires DEEP, by July 1, 2013, to post on department's web site a state map indicating probable combined sewer overflow locations from anticipated storm events. Legislation also requires DEEP, by July 1, 2014, to also post sewage spill (bypasses) info, and public health & safety concerns following DPH consultation.
- PA No. 12-197 (AAC Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes), Section 8 removed the word "regularly" from the definitions of Subsurface Sewage Disposal System (SSDS) Installers & Cleaners in order to make it clear that persons offering their services to the public for such work need a DPH license regardless if they do it regularly. Section 9 raised the maximum fine from \$100 to \$10,000 for cases against unlicensed individuals performing SSDS work.
- PA No. 12-155 (AAC Phosphorous Reduction in State Waters), Section 1 requires DEEP to evaluate and make recommendations regarding a state-wide strategy to reduce phosphorous loading in inland non-tidal waters. Phosphorus nonpoint source pollution will be included in the evaluation. Note: Septic systems are considered nonpoint source pollution and they discharge phosphorus to the ground waters of the state and contribute to phosphorus loading of inland waters.

DEEP General Permit

- *General Permit to Discharge from Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems Serving Existing Facilities* issued on May 9, 2012. Registration requirements/triggers, Local Health Responsibilities, Outreach Efforts (Circular Letter, Stakeholder Forums).

Maximum Groundwater Levels and Wet Season Monitoring

- Pursuant to PHC Section 19-13-B103d (e)(2) the maximum groundwater (GW) monitoring wet season is February 1st through May 31st. DPH can establish other times for monitoring when the GW level is determined to be near its maximum level. Based on data to date, the maximum GW period will not be extended beyond May 31st. However, due to the above normal 2011 precipitation, it has been determined that GW levels were near its maximum level from October 2011 through January 2012, and as such a Circular Letter is to be issued noting that monitoring data collected during that time period can be considered by local health departments in establishing a site's maximum GW level. See DPH Circular Letter #2002-25 dated June 12, 2002 for guidance on GW monitoring in dry "wet seasons".

State Onsite Regulators Alliance (SORA)

- SORA Funding White Paper, Updated May 16, 2011

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EPA Decentralized Wastewater MOU Partnership Position Papers

- EPA Decentralized Wastewater Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Partnership developed 4 position papers on decentralized wastewater management and systems to promote the concept of decentralized system management. DPH provided comments on the May 17, 2012 draft position papers. The partnership started in 2005 between 16 signatory organizations that have now expanded to 19 all of which are listed on the position papers along with their organizations' web site links.

New Environmental Engineering Program Position Update

- An agenda item on the November 30, 2011 CAC meeting agenda noted that an Environmental Analyst 2 position has been approved for the program. Following initial interviews, the program was advised that unfortunately the position was transferred to another program within the Department's Environmental Health Section, and the program will not be getting any additional staff at this time.

Conferences and Events

- April 2012 NOWRA Conference, Providence, RI, including field visits in RI and CT.
- May 11, 2012 CT Association of Water Pollution Control Authorities (CAWPCAs) Annual Meeting. Portion of program dedicated to decentralized sewage system matters: Old Saybrook's DWMD & AT Delegation, Forced local management to address community pollution VS Statewide management to prevent pollution. DPH offered CAWPCAs representation on the CAC.
- June 22, 2012 13th Annual New England Precast Concrete Association Open House & Exhibition @ Atlas Concrete Products, New Britain, CT
- June 26 – 28, 2012 SORA Conference, San Diego, CA
- September 26-28, 2012 Yankee Conference, Mystic, CT

Central Sewage System Exception Applications

- DPH Draft Circular Letter concerning Central Sewage System Exception Applications. New application. Existing system assessments. B100a compliance plans. Incidental wastewater. Upgrades to non-code compliant existing systems on residential lots for outbuilding central system exception requests. What's warranted? Draft language provides some discretion.

2013-2018 Draft Conservation & Development Policies: A Plan for Connecticut (Draft State C&D Plan)

- OPM prepared and released Draft State C&D Plan, which can be viewed at: <http://www.ct.gov/opm/cwp/view.asp?a=2990&q=467686>. Deadline for written comments October 5, 2012.
- DPH's Environmental Engineering Program and Drinking Water Section provided comments to OPM.
- Priority funding areas to be established and such areas have infrastructure (public water and sewer) available.
- General density guideline in previous C & D plans which require minimum lot sizes of one dwelling per 2 acres of "buildable" area (excludes wetlands) for developments on public water supply watersheds has been removed from draft plan.

On-site Stormwater Disposal and Low Impact Development

- DEEP evaluation of Stormwater General Permits to incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) principles/practices into the permits. Three August 2011 Fuss & O'Neill documents: LID Appendix to the 2004 CT Stormwater Quality Manual, LID Appendix to 2002 CT Guidelines for Erosion and Sediment Control, Evaluation of CT's Stormwater General Permits and Alternatives for incorporation of LID
- Outreach efforts to ensure decentralized potable water and sewage disposal regulators/stakeholders are in the loop on stormwater and LID initiatives by DEEP and UConn's CLEAR & NEMO programs. Future CAC agenda item with invite provided to these entities for discussions on stormwater disposal and LID practices as they relate to decentralized water and sewage systems.

Water Supply Well Siting Regulations

- DPH's Private Well Program has revisited the regulation revisions for siting water supply wells. The regulation was enacted in the early 1970s and revisions are intended to address many deficiencies that were pointed out in the June 2009 report to the legislature on purity and adequacy of private water supply wells. The regulation has a direct bearing on decentralized sewage system considerations.

Technical Standards Revisions

- Revisions to the *Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems* anticipated to be made available on January 1, 2014.
- Finalize and implement the effective leaching area (ELA) credit rating criteria for competing bio-mats, internal interfaces, and establish minimum storage triggers for timed dosing.
- Future discussion item (FDI): 1-bedroom residential building sizing for secondary residential buildings (in-law apartment, guest house) on single-family residential building sites.
- FDI: Reserve area requirements for outbuildings on single-family residential building sites.
- FDI: Multi-family residential building sizing for multi 1-bedroom unit structures.
- FDI: Minimum separating distance flexibility for SSDS encroachments when public sewers are to be available within 1 year and sewer tie in is required.

American Manufacturing Company (AMC), Inc. Perc Rite Drip Dispersal Systems

- DPH is continuing discussions with Perc Rite manufacturer, AMC, Inc, and Perc Rite Distributer, Oakson, Inc on approvals and criteria for incorporation of this proprietary drip dispersal/dosing system into the Technical Standards. Preliminary criteria: Spacing of laterals no closer than 1 foot. Company to approve certified installers. Backwash back to septic tank inlet or building sewer. Water usage monitoring with flow meters required by company. Yearly system checks by company. Drip systems not allowed under pavement. Language changes needed for the Technical Standards to allow proprietary low pressure distribution systems to be utilized without professional engineer designs if approved by DPH. ELA rating to be established and it will be less than 1.0 SF/LF.

Leaching System Ratings and Storage Triggers for Timed Dosing

- 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 CAC will be copied on the correspondence and it will be posted on DPH's web site.
- The draft revisions being considered include: 1) Raising product sidewall and internal interface credit height from pipe invert to the 3/4 point of the pipe. 2) No credit for competing bio-mats less than 1/2 inch apart, and 50% credit for competing bio-mats between 1/2 inch and 2 inches apart. 3) Establish limits for internal interface credits that are correlated to the bottom sand area available for internal loading. 4) Establish minimum storage triggers for timed dosing.