



## **ARKANSAS**

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### Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Sewage Disposal Systems, Designated Representatives and Installers

Act 402

March 1994

[http://www.healthyarkansas.com/rules\\_regs/sewage\\_disposal\\_systems.pdf](http://www.healthyarkansas.com/rules_regs/sewage_disposal_systems.pdf)

### Alternate Systems Manual

April 1993

Onsite regulations for Arkansas were last updated in March 1994, but certain revisions are currently underway, specifically to combine the two regulations: Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Sewage Disposal Systems, Designated Representatives, and Installers and the Alternate Systems Manual. The effective date has not been established. These regulations can be accessed at the URL Listed above.

The State of Arkansas does not follow performance based codes. Currently, drip irrigation systems are not listed within the state code; however, it is allowed for usage based on an “experimental” status.

Arkansas code does not recognize management programs/contracts or management districts to monitor and maintain onsite systems or individual septic dispersal systems within the state. There currently are no plans to implement these systems.

The State of Arkansas requires onsite professionals to be certified. Those professionals requiring certification include the initial testing for system installers and designers who must be in one of the four professions listed in the enabling legislation. These professions include Licensed Master Plumber, Registered Sanitarian, Registered Engineer, or Registered Soil Surveyor. These certifications are required to have a yearly renewal.

County Environmental Specialists are responsible for conducting site evaluations before an onsite system is installed in the State of Arkansas. Soil pits are used to determine the hydraulic conductivity and the depth to limiting horizons for specific site evaluations. Sizing is based on depths to brief, moderate, and long seasonal water tables. In the State of Arkansas new systems must be inspected by the County Environmental Specialist prior to use. Existing systems are not routinely inspected; however, if the homeowner were to request an inspection, the County Environmental Specialist would perform the inspection.

Permits for onsite wastewater systems are issued locally by County Environmental Specialists who are employed by the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services. The number of permits issued for new construction, are tracked by the Arkansas Department of Health. Permits for repair of an existing system or for upgrade of modification are not tracked. For additional information, contact Mr. Graves at the address listed above.

Permits are not required for alternative/experimental/innovative technologies within the State of Arkansas.

In the State of Arkansas, monies from State Revolving Funds (SRF) are not available to be used to assist individual homeowners to repair a failing or malfunctioning system; replace a failing or a malfunctioning system; or for new construction of onsite wastewater treatment systems.

In the State of Arkansas, training for new agency personnel is provided as needed and when funds allow. For more information, please contact Mr. Graves at the address listed above. Currently, there are no ongoing onsite wastewater demonstration, research, or testing projects in the state.