

## **CONNECTICUT**

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[http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Sewage/sewage\\_program.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Sewage/sewage_program.htm)

Regulations and Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems  
Discharges 5,000 Gallons Per Day or Less  
Section 19-13-B103  
January 1, 2004  
<http://www.dph.state.ct.us/phc/subcode.pdf>

Technical Standards for the Design and Construction of  
Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems Pursuant to Section 19-13-B103  
January 1, 2004  
[http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/sewage/TECHNICAL\\_STANDARDS\\_HIGHLIGHTED.pdf](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/sewage/TECHNICAL_STANDARDS_HIGHLIGHTED.pdf)

Design of Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems for  
Households and Small Commercial Buildings  
[http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Sewage/sewage\\_manual.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Sewage/sewage_manual.htm)

Onsite regulations for Connecticut were last updated on January 1, 2004. Currently the Code Advisory Committee for the State of Connecticut is being convened to discuss possible changes in the future; however, there are no legislative changes at this time.

In Connecticut, the Connecticut Department of Health approves conventional subsurface sewage disposal systems based upon total soil absorption/dispersal. Other technologies require Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) approval. The DEP handles mechanical treatment systems. Surface discharge for onsite septic dispersal systems is

not an option in Connecticut; in such case that surface discharge is desired, the DEP should be contacted.

Prior to October 1, 2003 Connecticut did not recognize management programs/contracts or management districts to monitor and maintain onsite systems or individual septic dispersal systems. However, new legislation has been passed that allows municipalities to establish by ordinance decentralized wastewater management districts. The legislation stipulates conditions that have to be met before a town can create a district.

State-level funding programs or mechanisms exist to assist homeowners replacing failing systems or installing new systems. Interested persons may contact Mr. Warren Herzig, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), by phoning (860) 424-3801.

Connecticut Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (COWRA) offers a septic installers preparation course. Contact COWRA at (860) 651-6233 or visit their website at [www.cowra-online.org](http://www.cowra-online.org) for more information.

Connecticut Department of Health, through a grant funded by DEP, is in the process of developing a soils assessment workshop for local sanitarians.

Percolation tests and identifying restrictive layers/factors through deep test pits are part of the site evaluation for suitability for an onsite SSDS. Restrictive factors and percolation data are used for sizing and configuration of the SSDS.

New construction, repair of existing systems and upgrade or modification permits are issued in the state of Connecticut. Local directors of health issue permits for conventional Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (SSDS) up to 5000 GPD. State DEP issues permits for SSDS over 500GPD and for alternative and community systems.

Should a homeowner request an inspection, local ordinances will indicate who performs the inspection. Licensed Septic Installers or agents of the Director of Health usually perform these inspections. The State of Connecticut requires their onsite inspectors to be certified. Local directors of health can authorize agents of the Director of Health, which are persons approved by the Commissioner of Public Health to investigate, inspect, and approve plans relating to subsurface sewage dispersal systems. Qualifications for approval by the Commissioner can be established by participating in a training course and passing an exam pertaining to applicable Public Health Code regulations. Local directors of health and agents of the director are responsible for conducting site evaluations before an onsite system is installed or approved for use. Usually these persons are sanitarians or professional engineers who are licensed in the state of Connecticut. Contact Mr. Warren Herzig, DEP (above) for information dealing with third party certification other than NSF International testing for approval of alternative/experimental systems.

Connecticut does not track the number of permits issued per year for new construction or for system repair or replacement. An annual survey of towns is required, but data are not always tallied. Records are maintained at the local level. Please contact Mr. Warren Herzig, DEP (above) for information on permits issued for alternative/experimental/innovative technologies.