

**Department of Human Services
Bureau of Health
Division of Health Engineering
Wastewater and Plumbing Control Program Newsletter
Volume 23, Issue #9 March 2002
Program Manager's Message**

I would like to thank all of you who have welcomed me back to the position of Director of the Wastewater & Plumbing Control Program. My thirteen years of private practice as a consulting engineer and site evaluator have given me a well-rounded perspective on all aspects of the design, permitting, construction, operation, and maintenance of subsurface wastewater disposal systems. I look forward to the challenge of overseeing the implementation of the Department's various rules in a fair and impartial manner to insure the protection of the public health and safety.

The following areas will receive our attention in the coming months.

1. Consistent interpretation of the rules through increased use of the Program's Policies and Procedures Manual.
2. Production of computer based training materials for local plumbing inspectors and site evaluators.
3. Inclusion of a proprietary device substitution table in Appendix B of the Rules.
4. Implementation of a voluntary subsurface wastewater disposal system inspection program for property transfers in the Shoreland Zone.
5. Promotion of the Voluntary Installer Certification Program.
6. Development of a more formal procedure for the submission and review of engineered disposal systems.
7. Development of a more formal procedure for the conduction of field reviews.

We welcome your comments on the various rules and how to best achieve their implementation. I intend to visit all professional and trade organizations that deal with the subsurface wastewater disposal rules and develop two-way lines of communications with the officers and interested parties. This newsletter will be one means of keeping you informed of our activities and soliciting your thoughts on the technical and administrative issues that arise from the day-to-day application of the rules.

Division's New Address

On March 26, 2002 the Division of Health Engineering moved to a new building, due to an expired lease on our old building. For many years, the Division was located at 157 Capital Street, Augusta. We have moved next door, to 161 Capital Street. The Division's mailing address and telephone numbers remain unchanged.

2002 Public Hearing

Proposed changes to the Rules for Appointment and Administration of Local Plumbing Inspectors, CMR 240; Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules, CMR 241; Rules for Conversion of Seasonal Dwelling Units in the Shoreland Zone, CMR 242; and Rules for Site Evaluators of Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Systems, CMR 245 were presented at a public hearing. The hearing was held Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at the Augusta Elks Lodge, Civic Center Drive, Augusta from 10 am to 12 noon. The comment period remained open for 10 days after the hearing, for written comments. A response summary will be issued shortly.

SE, LPI, & Installer's Column

Beginning with the September 2002 issue, the Division invites Site Evaluators, Local Plumbing Inspectors, Installers, and other interested parties to submit questions or situation descriptions for inclusion in the newsletter. The Division will pick one or more questions for SE's, LPI's, and Installers, each, for discussion in the newsletter. Please send or e-mail your submissions to Jim Jacobsen.

Recently Approved Products

Knight Treatment Systems Piranha, a fixed film aerobic retrofit device for septic tanks. Contact: EnviroCheck Inc., Attn.: Stephen A. O'Connor, P. O. Box 6480, Scarborough, ME 04070-6480

Snyder Industries, Model TK 750, TK 1250, TK 1050, and TK 1500 plastic septic tanks Contact: Snyder Industries, Inc., Attn.: Todd Blazer, Project Engineer, P. O. Box 577, Marked Tree, AR 72365

Del Zotto 1,500 Gallon pre-cast concrete septic tank, Contact: Glidden Construction & Foundations, Attn.: Avery Glidden, 585 Level Hill Road, Palermo, ME 04354

Zabel filters revised Versa-Tee housing for the 1801 filter and 12 inch diameter versions of the A100/300 filters Contact: Zabel Environmental Technology, Attn.: Theo B. Terry, III RS, P. O. Box 1520, Crestwood, KY 40014

Kee Process Managed Flow BioDisc Model BB Contact: Waste Water Solutions International, Inc., Attn. Thomas W. Foster, President, 3238 Old Fence Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

WEDCO WP 5700 two compartment polyethylene septic tank Contact: Waterfall Distributors, Attn.: Henry Caouette, P. O. Box 175, Mechanic Falls, ME 04256

Premier Tech EFT-80, Contact: Premier Tech Environment, Attn.: Luke Robitaille, Vice President, 7051 Meadow Lark Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242

Cultec Contactor EZ-24, Recharger 280 and Recharger 400 chambers Contact; Cultec, Inc., Attn.: Chris DiTullio, 878 Federal Road, Brookfield, Connecticut 06804

First Maine Installation of WasteFlow Drip Emitter System

On February 8, 2002 Division Staff and various local regulators were invited to observe the first installation of a GeoFlow WasteFlow molded drip emitter system in Maine. (This should not be confused with GeoFlow gravel-less tube systems.) Although approved for use in Maine in 1999, the product had not been marketed here.

The WasteFlow system consists of a proprietary ½ inch inside diameter plastic emitter line, inline pressure reducing flow emitters, a cyclonic solids filter, vacuum relief valves, and rigid plastic header lines. The interior of the emitter lines is impregnated with a root growth retardant and a bactericide. A proprietary electronic control panel would be used to control dosing volume and frequency. The system was designed by Richard Sweet, SE, of Sweet Associates in Falmouth, Maine.

Written Site Evaluator Exam Scheduled

The 2002 Site Evaluator written examination is scheduled for April 24, 2002 in Augusta. Persons interested in taking the examination must contact Jay Hardcastle, State Site Evaluator, by no later than April 4, 2002.

Voluntary Installer Certifications Lapse

Many of the initial round of voluntary installer certifications have lapsed, or are about to lapse. Those individuals who have been certified are encouraged to look at their certificates for the expiration date. If your certification has lapsed, you must submit proof of attendance at one or more seminars or training sessions after the date of certification. These can include, but are not limited to, J.E.T.C.C. programs other than the Basic Program, MDEP Nonpoint Source training, manufacturer training, or other training on a case by case review. Failure to renew the certifications by June 30, 2002 will result in removal from the Division's list of certified installers.

WW & PC Program Presentations

The Program has developed a series of Microsoft PowerPoint presentations on a variety of subjects. The presentations will be posted on the Program's web site by the end of April, along with online questionnaires. Completion of the questionnaires for all of the presentations will count as continuing education for Certified Installers, for renewal of their certifications. The Program will also be making these available on compact disks, along with offline questionnaires. Titles include Basic Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems, Advanced Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems, Soil Evaluation, Site Evaluation, and Malfunctions and Troubleshooting. A presentation on the permitting process is forthcoming.

Program Staff are also available to deliver these presentations to Planning Boards, Lake Associations, Conservation Commissions, and other interested parties. Please contact us for more information.