

SUBDIVISION 11. INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS

Subpart 1. Purpose.

The improper location, design, installation, use and maintenance of individual sewage treatment systems adversely affects the public health, safety, and general welfare by discharge of inadequately treated sewage to the ground, surface waters, and ground waters. In accordance with the authority granted in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 103F, 103g, 115 and 116, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency provides minimum standards and criteria for individual sewage treatment systems, and thus protects the surface waters and ground waters of the state, and promotes the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Minnesota Rules Chapter 7080 is hereby adopting the following more restrictive standards:

1. The design of the individual treatment systems shall be for Class I (as defined by 7080.0125) houses only.
2. An individual may install a new system on land the individual owns or leases and which functions solely as a dwelling or seasonal dwelling only if a Designer, as defined by 7080 completes a site evaluation and design. The individual may not employ unlicensed individuals in the installation of the system.

Subpart 2. General Application, Construction, and Inspection, and Failing System Upgrade Requirements.

1. The Property Owner shall make an ISTS permit or Variance application or licensed Installer at the County Environmental Office on forms provided by the Environmental Office. No person shall install, alter, repair or extend any individual sewage treatment system in the County without first applying for and at the same time paying a fee as listed in the fee schedule as set by the Redwood County Environmental Office and at the same time paying a fee as listed in the fee schedule as set by the Redwood County Board of Commissioners. The application fees cover administration, and final inspection costs associated with the Individual Sewage Treatment System Installation or Upgrade. An approved copy of the ISTS application serves as your record of the permit. Current information regarding fees can be obtained by calling or stopping at the County Environmental Office.
2. The final Individual Sewage Treatment System Construction Inspection and any required existing ISTS System inspection shall be conducted by the County Environmental Officer, or appointed licensed Staff, and shall record information on forms provided by the County Environmental Office. The inspection shall be done, as requested by the licensed Installer or property owner, prior to any portion of the excavation being backfilled, unless special arrangements have been

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made prior with the County Environmental Office. If the County Inspector is unable to be at the site within 24 hours, the licensed Installer or property owner is responsible to take pictures or videotape of the septic tank, drop boxes, drainfield lines, and other critical items along with a detailed drawing with measurements and setbacks prior to backfilling of the excavation by the licensed Installer or property owner.

3. No construction or repair requiring excavation of soil before April 15th or after October 15th shall be allowed in any portion of the drainfield or soil absorption system, without the permission of the County Environmental Office.
4. A Certificate of Compliance and Final Inspection Report along with the Final Drawing shall be sent to the property owner, and the licensed Installer who constructed the system. A copy shall also be kept on file in the County Environmental Office. The Certificate of Compliance and Final Inspection Report along with the final inspection drawing serves as the final as-built design.
5. In case of a failing system, application requirements and the site evaluation shall be completed within 30 days of the failure or a written notice of violation from the County Environmental Office. Installation by a licensed Installer and final inspection must be completed by the County Environmental Officer, or appointed staff who is a licensed Designer 1 or a licensed Inspector, must be completed with in one (1) full construction season, said season being April 15th to October 15th.

In case of a failing system between October 15th and April 15th, a site evaluation shall be completed within 30 days-weather permitting. Construction by a licensed Installer and final inspection by the County Environmental Officer or appointed staff who is a licensed Inspector, must be completed within the next full construction season. If weather does not permit, application, site evaluation, installation, and final inspection must be completed during the next full construction season.

The County Environmental Officer, or appointed Staff who is a licensed Designer 1 or licensed Inspector, shall determine if the weather is permitting or not.

6. Compliance inspections shall be conducted or valid Certificates of Compliance shall be presented under the following conditions:
 - A. Prior to transfer of property located within the shoreland district by the County Recorder;
 - B. Prior to the issuance of any variance or permits in a shoreland district; or

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- C. Prior to the issuance of any variance or permits for additions or renovations which will add a bedroom, or room which may reasonably be used as a bedroom.

Subpart 3. Enforcement

1. Any person who violates any portion of this Ordinance or who makes any false statement on a Certificate of Compliance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment or a fine or both as defined by law.
2. In the event of a violation of this Ordinance, in addition to other remedies, the County Attorney may institute appropriate actions or proceedings to prevent, restrain, correct or abate such violations.