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**IDAPA 41  
TITLE 04  
CHAPTER 02**

**41.04.02 - PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT 4 - RULES FOR COMMUNITY  
SUBSURFACE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.**

Title 39, Chapter 4 and Title 39, Chapter 36, Idaho Code, grants authority to Public Health District 4 (Central District) to adopt rules, regulations and standards to protect the environmental and the health of the Public Health District 4 (Central District). (7-1-93)

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE.**

**01. Title.** These rules shall be known as Public Health District 4 (Central District) Rules, "Rules for Community Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems". (7-1-93)

**02. Scope.** The provisions of these rules establish limitations on the construction and use of community subsurface sewage disposal systems and establish the requirements for obtaining an installation permit. These rules apply to every community subsurface sewage disposal system in Public Health District 4 (Central District). (7-1-93)

**002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATIONS.**

In accordance with Section 67-5201(19)(b)(iv), Idaho Code, this agency has written statements which pertain to the interpretation of the rules of this chapter, or to the documentation of compliance with the rules of this chapter. The document is available for public inspection and copying at cost in the main office of this agency. (7-1-93)

**003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS.**

Administrative appeals will be in accordance with IDAPA 04.11.01, "Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure of the Attorney General". (7-1-93)

**004. (RESERVED).**

**005. INCLUSIVE GENDER.**

For all sections and subsection of all administrative rules in Idaho, the terms and references used in the masculine include the feminine and vice versa, as appropriate. (7-1-93)

**006. SEVERABILITY.**

The sections and subsections of all administrative rules in Idaho are presumed severable unless specifically provided to the contrary. If any rule, or part thereof, or the application of such rule to any person or circumstance is declared invalid, that invalidity does not affect the validity of any remaining portion. (7-1-93)

**007. -- 009. (RESERVED).**

**010. DEFINITIONS.**

**01. Community Subsurface Sewage Disposal System.** Any on-site sewage disposal system utilizing subsurface disposal and having two (2) or more connections and/or flows equal to or exceeding two thousand five hundred (2,500) gallons per day. (7-1-93)

**02. Health Authority.** Public Health District IV, or such agency or unit of government as may succeed to their powers, duties and responsibilities. (7-1-93)

**03. Person.** Shall mean any institution, public or private corporation, individual, partnership, or other entity. (7-1-93)

**04. Reviewing Authority.** Local office of the Department of Environmental Quality or such agency as may succeed to their powers, duties and responsibilities. (7-1-93)

**011. -- 049. (RESERVED).**

**050. COMMUNITY SYSTEM MANAGEMENT.**

The perpetual maintenance and management of community systems shall be under the responsibility of an approved management system as described in Subsection 010.03. (7-1-93)

**051. PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT.**

Prior to or concurrent with the preparation of a detailed plans and specifications for proposed new construction or proposed improvements to a community system, the person making the proposal shall submit to the health authority for approval a preliminary report addressing the nature and scope of the proposed construction or improvement, including an analysis of the drainfield area to satisfactorily assimilate and treat the prospective sewage quantities for the anticipated life of the system. In addition, the preliminary report shall contain, but need not be limited to, the following information. (7-1-93)

**01. Number.** Representative number of percolation tests and soil logs, as determined by the health authority based on site/resource conditions or limitations. (7-1-93)

**02. Schedule.** Schedule for phase development. (7-1-93)

**03. Ground Water.** High seasonal ground water of the subsurface disposal area. (7-1-93)

**04. Effects.** Overall effects of the proposed sewage system upon the surrounding area and ground water. (7-1-93)

**05. Map.** Topographic map, showing elevations, hills, streams, canals, ditches, ponds and other prominent surface and water features. (7-1-93)

**06. Wells.** Location and depth of wells within one-fourth (1/4) mile of the area. (7-1-93)

**052. SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.**

**01. Plans and Specifications.** Every person, before installing or entering into a contract for installing a community system shall submit to the health authority for approval complete plans and specifications fully describing the system. All community systems plans and specifications shall be sent to the reviewing agency for approval. Upon receipt of written approval from the health authority, construction may begin. The plans and specifications shall be adhered to unless deviations receive the prior written approval of the health authority. (7-1-93)

**02. Inspection.** Plans submitted for approval shall include the proposed provisions for inspection of the work during construction, by a competent inspector. (7-1-93)

**03. Manual.** A detailed operation and maintenance manual, fully describing and locating all the elements of the system, the quality and quantity of materials used, and outlining maintenance procedures needed for proper operation of the system, shall be submitted together with the plans and specifications. The system is to be owned and under the responsible charge of an entity that can assure perpetuity and accountability for operation and maintenance as determined by the health authority. The entity shall submit a report annually of the operation and maintenance and monitoring to the health authority. (7-1-93)

**053. APPROVALS - PERIOD OF VALIDITY - RENEWAL.**

**01. Valid.** Approvals of plans and specifications by the health authority to start construction under these provisions shall be valid for an initial period of one (1) year commencing with the date of the written approval. Two (2) years shall be allowed for completion. If construction or improvement of the system is not started within one (1) year from the date of the written approval, or is not completed within two (2) years of the date of the written approval the approval shall lapse. When approval has lapsed, construction shall not begin or continue until approval is renewed. Lapsed approvals may be renewed for a one-year period at the discretion of the health authority upon the written request of the person to whom initial approval was granted or the heirs, successors, or assigns of such person. (7-1-93)

**02. Statement.** If any construction work for which plans and/or specifications were approved has been completed at the time renewal approval is requested, a statement shall be included with the request describing the extent of the completed work. The statement shall be prepared by and bear the seal of a professional engineer registered in the state of Idaho who is acquainted with the construction and shall include maps and plans clearly defining the completed work. (7-1-93)

**03. Revision.** As a condition of renewal, the health authority or its authorized agent may require the plans and specifications to be revised to conform with the design standards and the requirements of the rules and regulations current at the time of request for renewal. If the plans and specifications are revised they shall apply to all subsequent work performed in completing the construction of the project. (7-1-93)

**04. Changes.** Changes, additions or deletions in the original plans and/or specifications as may be proposed subsequent to the initial approval shall not, in approved, affect the terminal date of the initial approval or any renewal thereof then in effect. (7-1-93)

**05. Renewals.** Renewals shall be in writing, setting forth the date of original approval and the terminal date of the renewal. (7-1-93)

**054. REQUIREMENT FOR ENGINEERS.**

All comprehensive plans, preliminary reports or final plans and specifications for community sewage disposal systems, extensions or alterations, shall be prepared by a professional engineer licensed in the state of Idaho and shall bear the engineer's seal. (7-1-93)

**055. MAXIMUM SIZE OF COMMUNITY ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM.**

Where the size of a development for which a community system is proposed exceeds fifty (50) connections or the flow exceeds fourteen thousand (14,000) gallons per day, multiple drainfields, seepage pits, seepage beds, mounds or approved alternative methods may be required, each of which shall not exceed fourteen thousand (14,000) gallons per day. Systems which will receive flows greater than fourteen thousand (14,000) gallons per day shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. In those cases where multiple drainfield systems are required, they shall be physically separated to the maximum extent possible so as to minimize negative effects of the sewage effluent upon ground water quality and the ability of the soils to adequately accept and treat sewage. (7-1-93)

**056. DESIGN CRITERIA.**

The detailed design and construction of community sewage disposal systems shall conform to the requirements of all state and local regulations. Design elements of a community system shall be justified through detailed and complete engineering analysis. (7-1-93)

**01. Piping.** The piping for collecting and conveying sewage shall be designed and constructed according to good engineering practice. (7-1-93)

**02. Rates.** Application rates shall be determined and justified through engineering analysis. In general, the maximum application rate shall not exceed two (2) gallons per square foot per day. (7-1-93)

**03. Reduction.** Proposals for reduction in drainfield length for deep trench shall be justified through engineering analysis. (7-1-93)

**04. Dosing.** Dosing of the drainfield shall be in accordance with the requirements of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare Publication No. (hsm) 72-10020, and amendments thereof. (7-1-93)

**05. Disposal Fields.** The system is to include two (2) parallel disposal fields, each sized to the maximum design loading and capable of alternate loading by means of a diverting valve and alternated annually. The installation of only one (1) drainfield, sized to accept the maximum daily flow, may be permitted where the disposal system will be temporary and is not to be used for more than two (2) years. Notifications to the health authority by the agency that will provide permanent disposal shall accompany the request for only one (1) drainfield. (7-1-93)

**06. Reserve Drainfield.** A reserve drainfield area equal in area and site conditions to the primary drainfields and in a location which can be readily used may be required. The reserve drainfield area shall be

delineated on the plans submitted for approval. In addition, legal documentation shall be submitted committing this area to remain as a reserve drainfield, rather than being sold as lots or used for some other purpose. (7-1-93)

**07. Vented.** Drainfields shall be vented. When natural ventilation is inadequate, artificial ventilation shall be provided. (7-1-93)

**08. Removal.** Provision shall be made for the removal of oil or grease where these factors will cause an operational problem. (7-1-93)

**09. Drainage.** The entire drainfield disposal area shall be designed to afford surface drainage and to prevent ponding of surface water. (7-1-93)

**10. Vegetation.** The drainfield area must be planted with a suitable vegetative cover crop, to provide maximum evapotranspiration potential and stabilization of the drainfield area. (7-1-93)

**11. Community Systems.** Community systems shall not be permitted in areas of fractured rock or excessive permeable material (percolation rate faster than one (1) minute per inch) where the action of the soil profile may be ineffective in retaining and removing substances having an adverse effect on ground water unless filter material is provided beneath and around the absorption trench or bed. The filter material and its depth shall be approved by the health authority. In no case shall the depth of filter material be less than two (2) feet. The total depth of natural soil and filter material shall not be less than four (4) feet below the bottom of the trench. (7-1-93)

**12. Depth.** Drainfield pipe shall be located at a depth to obtain optimum benefits from evapotranspiration and treatment from the soil. In general, the maximum cover over drainfield pipe shall not exceed thirty-six (36) inches. Proposals for cover exceeding thirty-six (36) inches must be supported by engineering justification. (7-1-93)

**13. Disposal Area.** The disposal areas shall be constructed and maintained free of any impermeable surfaces, such as roadways, parking lots, paved areas, etc. The disposal area must be fenced or otherwise protected from all excessive compaction, such as that caused by vehicular traffic. (7-1-93)

**14. Phase Construction Schedule.** A phase construction schedule may be considered. At no time shall the sewage flow exceed the design capabilities of the sewage system as approved and certified. (7-1-93)

**15. Monitoring Program.** The system is to include an approved ground water and/or surface water quality monitoring program where appropriate. Depending upon location of aquifers, soil types, climate etc. (7-1-93)

**16. In-Line Filter.** If the system includes a package sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type), an in-line filter is to be provided before the effluent enters the disposal field. (7-1-93)

**057. -- 070. (RESERVED).**

**071. INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION BY A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER.**

Within sixty (60) days following completion of and prior to the use of any community system or portions thereof for which plans and specifications have received approval of the reviewing agency, a certification shall be made to that agency and the health authority, signed by a professional engineer, licensed in the state of Idaho, that the construction of the community system was inspected by the engineer and that the system was constructed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. (7-1-93)

**072. -- 999. (RESERVED).**

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