

Tri-County Health Department  
 Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Regulation O-17  
 Summary of Changes

**(Does not include changes adopted in Regulation 43 by the Water Quality Control Commission)**

O-17 Section Number	Previous Wording in O-14	Change
Section 2	N/A	Added Definition: Cemented Sands - Soil, having a sand, loamy sand or sandy loam texture having a cementation class of NC, EW, VW, W, M, ST, VS or I as described in the table on page 2-63 of the Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Book for Describing and Sampling Soils, National Soils Survey Center NRCS-USDA, 2012 (NRCS Field Book), or latest edition
Section 2	N/A	Added Definition: Water Course - means a natural or artificial channel through which water flows
Section 3.9.C	A Major Repair Permit shall be required for the following types of repairs or alterations: 1) Replacement of an existing soil treatment area. 2) Addition of a soil treatment area. 3) Expansion of an existing soil treatment area.	Added: "with or without the addition of a lift station" to each subsection. Added: "Implementation of a soil based remediation system" as a subsection.
Section 3.9.D	A Minor Repair Permit shall be required for the following types of repairs or alterations: 1) Addition or replacement of a septic tank. 2) Addition of a septic tank based remediation system.	Added: "addition of a septic tank based remediation system" to subsections.
Section 3.13.G	N/A	Added: "Receipt of letter from the designer certifying construction of the OWTS as per the approved design document".
Section 3.13 & 3.14	N/A	If the property line is within 15 feet of any system component, the property line must be marked

		at the time of final inspection by the Department.
Section 4.2.A.2	A remodel that includes the addition of up to two (2) bedrooms	A remodel that includes the addition of up to one (1) bedroom
Section 5.4.B.1	The scum and sludge level in the tanks shall be measured and tanks shall be pumped if the scum or sludge depth exceeds 18 inches or is less than four (4) inches from the bottom of the treatment unit.	Changed "18 inches" to "25% of the operating volume of the treatment tank".
Section 7.1.B	A systems contractor license is issued to the individual who takes and passes the written systems contractor examination. The license shall follow the individual if they change employment. Each systems contractor shall have a minimum of one (1) owner or employee with a valid systems contractor license at all times.	Changes: A systems contractor license is issued to the individual who takes and passes the Department written systems contractor examination and provides documentation of completion of the National Association of Wastewater Technicians (NAWT) Installers Course or approved equivalent, within two (2) years from the effective date of this Regulation. The license shall follow the individual if they change employment. Each systems contractor shall have a minimum of one (1) owner or employee with a valid systems contractor license at all times.
Section 7.5.G	N/A	The licensed Systems Contractor shall be responsible for maintaining certification as a Certified Installer through the NAWT or certification from an approved equivalent.

Section 7.6.E.	N/A	D.E. The licensed Systems Cleaner shall be responsible for maintaining certification as a Certified NAWT Vacuum Truck Operator or Certified NAWT Operation and Maintenance 1 Provider or certification from an approved equivalent.
Section 7.2.B.3	N/A	Documentation of completion of the NAWT Vacuum Truck Course or NAWT Operation and Maintenance 1 Course or approved equivalent, within two (2) years from the effective date of this Regulation.
Section 8.12.A.2)	N/A	Added: Obtaining an approved designer certification through a certifying organization within two (2) years from the effective date of this Regulation. If the certification course includes an exam to verify acceptable completion of the course, a passing grad on the exam must be attained.
Section 8.12.B.2	The Department may approve training for percolation testing	Changed: 2) Attend an approved training or workshop for soil evaluation for OWTS including both class and field work within two (2) years of the effective date of this Regulation. A) If the training or workshop includes an exam to verify acceptable completion of the course, a passing grade on the exam must be attained.
Section 8.12.C.2	a) Degree in soil science, agronomy, geology, other majors if a course(s) in soil morphogy was included; or b) Attend an approved training or workshop for soil evaluation for OWTS including both class and field work.	Deleted: "Degree in soil science, agronomy, geology, other majors if a course(s) in soil morphology was included. Added: "Attend an approved training or workshop for soil evaluation for OWTS including both class and field work within two (2) years from the effective date of this Regulation". i) If the training or workshop includes an exam to verify acceptable completion of the course, a passing grade on the exam must be attained.

Section 11.6	N/A	Added: "Electrical wires must be a minimum 24 inches below grade or as required by the local electrical requirements. If shallower than 24 inches wires must be placed in conduit and/or a Ground Fault Interrupter must be present".
Section 12.3.B.2)	N/A	Added: "Sewer line from the building to the tank shall be installed a minimum 22 inches deep. If sewer line is required to be installed shallower than 22 inches, design considerations must be included to prevent freezing.
Section 12.3.D.2)	N/A	Building sewer pipe from the foundation to the septic tank must be no less than four (4) inches in diameter.
Section 12.8.A.4)	N/A	Pumps shall be installed at least two inches off the floor of the tank.
Section 12.8.F.1)	1) Splice boxes must be located outside the pump system access riser and be accessible from the ground surface.	Changed: Splice boxes must be located outside and attached to the pump system access riser and be accessible from the ground surface. If no riser is present, splice boxes shall be located on an approved pedestal located adjacent to the pump access manhole.
Section 12.8.G.1)f)	N/A	Added: Must bear the seal of a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL), such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL), Electrical Testing Lab (ETL), or Canadian Standards Association (CSA).
Section 12.5.H.1)b)	N/A	Added: "float setting to achieve desired dose volume"
Section 15.3.K	N/A	Added: "vaults may be permitted for commercial recreational vehicle waste disposal"

Section 5.9	N/A	Added: "must obtain certification as a NAWT Operation and Maintenance 1 and 2 service provider or approved equivalent and shall be responsible to complete all necessary requirements to maintain certification.
Table 5	N/A	Added: setback to in-ground swimming pool in column with potable water supply line.
Section 12.2.D.3)a)	N/A	Inlet tee must consist of a sweeping bend.
13.5.C	N/A	Screw caps prohibited on inspection ports