

## **SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE 2014 ONSITE WASTEWATER REGULATIONS**

### Table of Contents

Removed Section 4 (Sewer Connection) and re-numbered Sections 4-19.

Changed "Subdivision Requirements" into Section 5. It had been a sub-section.

Moved Section 7 (Minimum Lot Size) into Section 5 (Subdivision Requirements).

Inserted Section 16 "Code of Ethics",

### Definitions

Changed: Bedrock (Section 2.4)

Moved: Soil Qualified Designated Representative to (Section 2.9.1)

Changed: Fragipan (Section 2.19) and

Moved: Fragipan to Section 2.44

Changed: Hydraulic Conductivity (Section 2.23)

Added: Licensees (Section 2.27)

Added: Pedon (Section 2.31)

Added: Perched Water Table (Section 2.32)

Changed: Redoximorphic Features (Section 2.42)

Changed: Relic Redoximorphic Features (Section 2.42)

Changed: Restrictive Soil Layer (Section 2.44)

Added: Claypan (Section 2.44.1)

Added: Pressure or Induced Pan (Section 2.44.3)

Added: Soil (Section 2.52)

Changed: Surface Discharging System (Section 2.60)

Removed: Wastewater (Section 2.63)

#### Section 4

This section amended Section 4.9 to require re-validation of permits by the original submitting Designated Representative or the Department's Authorized Agent. This section "Permit Requirements" also contains all wording from the old section 5.1 to 5.8.4

NOTE: This was narrowed to the original Designated Representative (DR) to prevent substantive changes to the original designer's plans and specifications without their knowledge.

#### Section 5

This section contains the requirement for subdivision submission utilizing various methods same wording as previously in the regulation with the additions of the section noted below.

Added directions for determining the hydraulic conductivity zone in the soil profile (Section 5.5.2.3.3) and (5.5.3.2).

NOTE: Defines soil depth used to determine the most limiting hydraulic conductivity for clarity.

#### Section 6

Deleted section 6.2.9

This wording is redundant and misplaced in this setback portion of the regulation. Section 3, "Variances and Exemptions" grants authority to make waivers for any part of this regulation as the discretion of the department.

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## Section 7

Removed sub-section 7.4.1-Soils with dissimilar color patterns from the rule.

NOTE: This section was contained in the original guidelines describing soil color patterns. These patterns are rarely seen in Arkansas so this was removed to improve clarity.

### **Seasonal Water Table Classes.**

This section added clarification of low shrink/swell clay soils (Section 7.3.2). Counties where these soils exist are listed in Appendices.

The section added a Soil Loading Chart for Low Hydraulic Conductivity Soils to the appendix (Section 7.3.3).

This section removed “hard masses” from the brief seasonal water table determination and added “soft masses” as an indicator (Section 7.4.1.1)

NOTE: Hard masses of iron and manganese are generally considered relic. They are no longer indicators of a seasonal water table when no other features are apparent.

This section removed clay percentage as a seasonal water table indicator (Section 7.4).

NOTE: Clay percentage alone is not an indicator of a seasonal water table. Some soils containing high clay percentages may not exhibit seasonal water tables due to the restriction of water movement in the soil profile.

Clarified the requirements for monitoring seasonal water tables (Section 7.4.3.1)

NOTE: This section sets parameters for the monitoring of seasonal water tables when an owner, developer, professional soil classifier, or designated representative believes conditions are not indicative of the apparent soil morphological indicators.

## Section 8

Removed the “preferred trench length of 60 feet” wording from the regulations.

NOTE: A requirement no longer needed.

Section 8.4.2 Language change to clarify that any high strength wastewater producer would have to pretreat to a waste strength suitable for subsurface discharge.

Section 8.8.4 The inclusion of a filter after a pump prevents orifice clogging for the system. Small 1/8 to 3/8s inch holes can become clogged with debris common in effluent.

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## Section 9

Section 9.9.6 Wording was old wording that is no longer necessary. Valves are required for adjusting individual line flow rates.

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## Section 10

Added a requirement that holding tanks shall be constructed with no outlet (Section 10.5)

NOTE: This requirement is intended to minimize illegal outlet pipe installation and illicit discharges of sewage.

Added the requirement that only vacuum testing will be allowed during the inspection of a concrete septic tank manufacturing facility (Section 10.6.3.8).

NOTE: All manufacturers now have the equipment to vacuum test their own tanks. Vacuum testing is much more efficient and less time consuming than water testing. The department has equipment to vacuum test as well.

## Section 11

Removed the single pass sand filter from the regulations (Section 11.4)

NOTE: Due to advances in technology this design is rarely used. The removal of this section does not eliminate the potential use of this design type.

#### Section 15

The section added requirement that a septic tank manufacturing facility will be inspected at least 60 days prior to the renewal date.

NOTE: This section is intended to allow the department of inspect concrete tanks that are structurally sound and properly cured.

#### Section 16

Added Code of Ethics

#### Appendix

Changed Appendix B-Water usage chart-

NOTE: Below are some of the flow rate reductions. These rates will result in smaller field dispersal areas and installation expenses.

Camps-Reduced water usage w/central comfort station

Grocery Stores-Reduced the water usage for per 100 square feet of floor space.

Country Clubs-Large reduction in water usage

Dental and Doctor office-Changed design criteria from "chairs" to "practitioner" and reduced the water usage.

Reduced the water usage for Recreational Vehicle Parks

Added Appendix C-Loading rates for low hydraulic conductivity soils

Removed "Institutions" from the charts

#### Footnotes

Removed demonstrable flows for water usage determination

Added a list of counties in the Salem Plateau

Added a Soil Textural Triangle

Added a U.S. to metric conversion table

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