

CHAPTER 65

PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

65.01 Purpose	65.13 Construction Permit
65.02 Applicability	65.14 Denial of Permit
65.03 Adoption of State Code	65.15 Voiding of Permit
65.04 Designated Agency	65.16 Permit Expiration
65.05 Additional Rules	65.17 Posting Permit
65.06 Soil Percolation Tests	65.18 Emergency Repair
65.07 Application for Permit	65.19 Requests for Final Inspection
65.08 When Construction Permit Application Needed	65.20 Inspection of Newly Constructed or Reconstructed Private Sewage Disposal Systems
65.09 When Repair Permit Application Needed	65.21 Licensure of Private Sewage Disposal Contractors
65.10 Fees	65.22 Revocation and Denial of Licensure
65.11 Site Evaluation	
65.12 Site Evaluations for Proposed Subdivisions	

65.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to safeguard public health by minimizing the impact of onsite sewage treatment and disposal by promoting the maintenance of existing systems and employing best technology for new system installation.

65.02 APPLICABILITY. The provisions contained herein apply to any system that provides for the treatment or disposal of domestic sewage from four or fewer dwelling units or the equivalent of less than 16 individuals on a continuing basis, including domestic waste, whether residential or nonresidential, but not including any industrial waste of any flow rate except for on-farm food processing provisions described in 567 IAC 68.

65.03 ADOPTION OF STATE CODE. Pursuant to the authority granted in the *Code of Iowa* 137.104, the Board of Health adopts, in its entirety, by reference, the following Iowa Administrative Code chapter: 567 IAC 69 – *Private Sewage Disposal Systems*.

65.04 DESIGNATED AGENCY. Pursuant to the *Code of Iowa*, Chapter 137 *Local Boards of Health*, the Story County Environmental Health Department (EH) is the designated agency to interpret, monitor and enforce the rules contained in this chapter.

65.05 ADDITIONAL RULES. Pursuant to Section 137.104 of the *Code of Iowa*, the Board of Health adopts the additional rules contained in this chapter regulating private sewage disposal systems.

65.06 SOIL PERCOLATION TESTS. The property owner is responsible for overseeing any required percolation test, and shall follow the percolation test procedure outlined in 567 IAC 69.

65.07 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT. Any person, firm, or corporation wishing to construct or reconstruct a private sewage disposal system in Story County shall submit an application for a construction permit to the EH. Application shall be made on forms provided by EH. Information provided shall contain, at a minimum, name of property owner, name of applicant, legal description of the site location, type of facility and/or anticipated loading rate, name of septic contractor, and additional requests by EH.

65.08 WHEN CONSTRUCTION PERMIT APPLICATION NEEDED.

1. New construction with wastewater generation.
2. Existing system with increased wastewater loading.
3. Replacement or enlargement of the secondary system.

65.09 WHEN REPAIR PERMIT APPLICATION NEEDED.

1. Septic tank or pump chamber replacement.
2. Distribution box replacement.

65.10 FEES. Application for permit must be accompanied by a filing fee, as set by the Board of Health. Fees shall be made payable to the Story County Treasurer, and directed to EH.

65.11 SITE EVALUATION. Site evaluations are required prior to issuance of a construction permit, and may be conducted by EH, a certified civil engineer, or a soils professional. A person performing a professional soil analysis for a site evaluation shall demonstrate training and experience in soil morphology, such as testing absorption qualities of soil by the physical examination of the soil's color, mottling, texture, structure, topography, and landscape position. EH may require an engineer's design for system proposals for commercial, institutional, or public service facilities with special wastewater treatment needs or large wastewater volumes.

65.12 SITE EVALUATIONS FOR PROPOSED SUBDIVISIONS. All subdivisions of land proposing more than two buildable lots shall have a site evaluation conducted by a certified engineer or soils professional for each lot. The evaluation report shall include soil core locations, soil descriptions, depth to limiting layer, soil loading rates, system type, and options for system location. Wells, subsurface tiles, and waterways shall be identified in the report.

65.13 CONSTRUCTION PERMIT. Upon completion of the site evaluation EH shall issue a permit using information obtained from the site evaluation report, soil survey, flood maps, permit application, and other pertinent information. EH may apply policy or variations of design which have been approved or recommended by the Board of Health, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, or the University Extension Engineering Specialists in efforts to enhance wastewater treatment or increase the system's longevity. The permit shall outline the basic construction design and minimum system size as defined in 567 IAC 69, along with any restrictive conditions or requirements. Mandatory system maintenance and monitoring requirements, easements, and other special conditions will also be stipulated on the permit.

65.14 DENIAL OF PERMIT. EH may deny issuing a permit if the application is incomplete or any instrumental factors for defining the wastewater treatment system are absent or shown to be inadequate.

65.15 VOIDING OF PERMIT. The wastewater treatment system's construction plan, stipulated in the Story County Board of Health Permit, shall be followed. Any variation from that which is defined in the permit voids the construction permit.

65.16 PERMIT EXPIRATION. A permit for construction shall expire one calendar year from the date of issuance.

65.17 POSTING PERMIT. A copy of the permit shall be posted at the site location during the construction period. The permit applicant shall post a copy at the entrance of the construction site so it can be clearly seen by the public.

65.18 EMERGENCY REPAIR. In the event of an emergency situation, work may be initiated to repair a system without first obtaining a permit, provided this repair work is reported to EH by 12:00 noon of the next Story County Administration's business day. All repair work shall conform to the specifications provided in 567 IAC 69. All completed work shall be left uncovered until inspected by EH. Emergency repair work does not include replacing the secondary system. The necessity for a new or replacement wastewater treatment system requires a site evaluation and permit.

65.19 REQUESTS FOR FINAL INSPECTION. The contractor or property owner shall notify EH at least eight (8) working hours, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. before the completed system is to be available for final inspection.

65.20 INSPECTION OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED OR RECONSTRUCTED PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS. The secondary system shall remain uncovered until inspected by EH. The contractor shall be available to discuss details of the installation. EH will notify the contractor of any concerns with the system installation, and how to remedy them. The purpose of this inspection is to collect field data in order to document the system's description and location, to determine if the permit intent was accomplished, and to assess the workmanship. The field data collected during the inspection documents the conditions at the time of the inspection, but does not necessarily sanction a system as being in compliance with the requirements of 567 IAC 69. It is the responsibility of the licensed contractor to ensure that all on-site wastewater treatment system installations are performed in accordance with the provisions of 567 IAC 69.

65.21 LICENSURE OF PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CONTRACTORS. Any person, firm or corporation desiring to construct, alter, repair or provide maintenance of any private sewage disposal system in Story County, Iowa, shall file for licensure with EH. To qualify for licensure in Story County, the applicant must be a Certified Installer of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (CIOWTS), as accredited by the Iowa Onsite Waste Water Association (IOWWA) or the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). Certification must be obtained by April 1, 2015.

1. Licensure is valid for two years. Renewal requires proof of CIOWTS.
2. Continuing education credits for CIOWTS shall be as defined by IOWWA or NEHA certification requirements.
3. A licensed Story County private sewage disposal contractor shall be on site during the final inspection of private sewage disposal systems.

65.22 REVOCATION AND DENIAL OF LICENSURE. A private sewage disposal contractor's license may be revoked by the BOH for violation of terms of this chapter.

1. Revocation Period. Application for renewal of license, when the license has been revoked, will not be allowed for a period of one year from the date of revocation.
2. Appeal Hearing. An appeal hearing on license denial or revocation may be requested in writing to the Story County Board of Health Chairperson.
3. The contractor may only be reinstated at the discretion of the Story County Board of Health.

[The next page is 375]