

On-Site Wastewater Technical Advisory Group

November 19, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Meeting Summary

MEETING ATTENDEES

Core Group Members Present

Dave Lowe, Lowridge Onsite
Technologies, LLC.
David Jensen, P.E., Jensen Engineering
Eric Knopf, Indigo Design, Inc.
Robert Monetta, Windermere Real
Estate, Methow Valley
Justin Hartmann, CPSS
Season Long, Cowlitz County EHD
Bob Gaulke, Spokane Regional Health
District
James Hayes, Whatcom County Health
Department

Core Group Members Not Present

Dave Hilton, Okanogan County EHD

Guests

DOH Staff Present

Leslie Turner, OSS

INTRODUCTION:

The meeting began at 9:30 AM on November 19, 2020.

TAG Business

Virtual meeting improvements: if there is a background light the face will not be visible.

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SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS:

Nitrogen reduction credit for subsurface drip drainfield in specific soils discussion:

- TAG member proposal to allow a 20% reduction for sandy loam, loam sand, loam, and clay loam
- More information needed addressing soil stratification and downward impediment
- Research Chico studies more
- Uncomfortable with a 20% reduction
- Proposed WAC revision allows for smaller lots with nitrogen reduction
- Confirm soil descriptions are USDA
- Role of mycorrhiza
- Compare nitrogen reduction of drip with pressure distribution
- Can you stack RGF nitrogen reduction with a drip reduction if approved
- Compare the difference of highly treated effluent with STE influent

Unanimous: more data needed

Subsurface Drip Systems RS&G revision discussion

- Table 2 issues with LHJs and design professionals
- What do other states and manufacturers do?
- Idaho may have some good examples
- The new table 2 allows for a significant reduction in drainfield size
- There are essentially 2 tables in Table 2. It should be broken into Table 2a and Table 2b.
- Designers are finding loophole to reduce a previously required drainfield size
- Leave the old Table 2 and scrap the new one
- Kitsap has a good table interpretation

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- Components in tank riser to keep them from freezing. The headworks paragraph will be revised by a TAG member
- Minimum residual pressure 7 psi on the last gauge during the dose for even distribution
- Add inspector must have training
- Proposed wording to be voted on in Feb 2021: “The design professional, installer, and local health officer must have specific training in subsurface drip systems” (2.7.1 August 2020) This will include that local health officers must also have training in subsurface drip

The Appendix A Chimney Effect section will be reworked by a TAG member

Unanimous: The new Table 2 needs to be reworked and minor changes to the rest of the document

Majority: remove 3.11.1 (August 2020)

Recirculating Gravel Filter RS&G:

Unanimous: No further changes. The draft is ready for final review, formatting, and publication

Miscellaneous item:

Should a definition of level be included in the WAC or RS&Gs other than the current requirement in Pressure Distribution and Dosing to Gravity?

Unanimous: no changes

Pressure Distribution:

Unanimous: Add the requirement for outlet filters must have at least a 1/8” mesh

WRAP UP:

The meeting ended at 3:30 PM, November 19, 2020.

The next meeting will be in February 2021.