

# \* Public Health Code Section 19-13-B103

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Connecticut Department of Public Health  
Keeping Connecticut Healthy



## \* B103a Scope

\*Minimum requirements for household and small commercial sewage disposal systems with capacity of 5,000 GPD or less (**changed to 7500 GPD in 2017**), non-discharging toilet systems and procedures for permits by local health departments as required by Section 25-54i (g) (Updated to Section 22a-430) of the General Statutes.

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## \* B103b Definitions

- \* Sewage: Note it does not include
- \* manufacturing process water, cooling water, softener backwash, storm water, collected groundwater
- \* Wastes requiring permits from DEEP: dry cleaning, car wash, oils, slaughter house, photographic processing liquids, furniture stripping.
- \* Subsurface sewage disposal systems (septic systems) include any groundwater control system in which the operation of the leaching system is dependent (not subject to distances specified in Table 4)

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## \* B103b Definitions

- \* Impervious soil has a percolation rate slower than 60 minutes per inch
- \* Maximum groundwater is the level to which groundwater rises for a duration of one month or longer during the wet season

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## \* B103b Definitions

- \* Open watercourses do not include roadside swales that convey water only after a rain event but does include seasonal standing or flowing water
- \* Local director of health includes his/her authorized agents
- \* Gray water is domestic sewage with no toilet waste (black water)

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## \* B103c General Provisions

- \* All sewage must be disposed of by public sewers, subsurface sewage disposal systems, or other methods approved by DPH
- \* All sewers, septic systems, privies, toilets and plumbing systems shall be kept in a sanitary conditions at all times and prevent odors and exclude animals and insects

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**DPH** \* **B103c General Provisions**

Disposal of septage (waste from sewage tanks):

- \* Off-site: Must be a licensed installer/cleaner and a permit is needed from local health department
- \* Disposal location must be noted on application
- \* No disposal on public water supply watershed unless state approved
- \* On-site: Burial to avoid health hazards and nuisances

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**DPH** \* **B103c General Provisions**

\* **Pump trucks**

- \* Must be watertight and have company/licensee name and licensee number on them
- \* Vehicle and equipment (hoses, buckets) must be in clean condition when not in use
- \* Rinse water is considered sewage and must be disposed of in a sanitary manner approved by local health department



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**DPH** \* **B103c General Provisions**

\* **Septic Tank Pumping**

- \* Lower liquid level first to avoid sludge/scum from flowing to leaching system
- \* All scum and sludge must be removed and baffles must be inspected for damage or clogging at time of pumping
- \* Avoid damaging system and clean up spills



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**DPH** \* **B103c General Provisions**

\* **Health hazards and nuisances:** Local health departments must investigate these complaints and take action to abate (eliminate) them. Notice of Violation can be issued indicating the code reference.

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**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

- \* All septic systems must meet code requirements unless an exception is granted
- \* Local Health Department Exceptions:
  - \* Only for repairs
  - \* Only if code compliance cannot be achieved
  - \* Only if a determination is made that a health hazard/nuisance condition is unlikely

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**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

\* **State Health Department Exceptions**

- \* **Central System:** Exception allowing a common system to serve more than one building if technically preferable
- \* **Off lot systems (Easement Arrangements):** Exception allowing sewage disposal system to be located on a lot other than the lot on which the building served is located
- \* **Standard II A (Well Separation Distance):** Exception allowing sewage system to be installed less than 75 feet from a water supply well

Don't forget holding tanks!

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**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

- \* **Large Systems:** design flows of 2000 GPD or greater must be approved by DPH (State)
- \* Plans must be designed by CT Professional Engineer (PE)
- \* Plans must be complete (basis of design, soil information, elevations, property lines, wells, building locations, watercourse, etc.)

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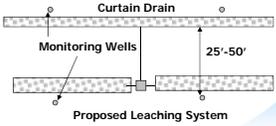
**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

- \* **Areas of Special Concern**
  - \* Perc faster than 1 minute per inch
  - \* Perc slower than 30 minutes per inch
  - \* Maximum groundwater less than 3 feet below grade
  - \* Ledge rock less than 5 feet below grade
  - \* Slopes exceeding 25%
  - \* Severe Rating per Soil Survey
  - \* Wetland Soils
  - \* Drawdown area of public well (50 GPM +) or within 500 feet of approved public well site

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**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

**Wet Season Monitoring**  
Local DOH can require wet season monitoring (Feb 1-May 31) for maximum groundwater determination in Areas of Special Concern

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**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

- \* **New Systems:**
  - \* Areas of special concern must be PE designed
  - \* Hydraulic analysis can be requested
  - \* Local DOH agents can approve PE plans if certified
- \* **Repairs:**
  - \* Local DOH may require PE plans if conditions / constraints warrant or site is an area of special concern

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**DPH** \* **B103d Minimum Requirement**

- \* **Gray Water Systems**
  - \* Must have septic tank and leaching system that is at least one half size required for entire building served
  - \* Note: Black water system is still full sized, therefore, 1 1/2 system provided

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

No permit or approval shall be issued:

- \* If system discharges to any watercourse
- \* Unless public water or a well site is available
- \* If site has impervious existing soil.
- \* If site has less than 4 feet of suitable existing soil above ledge rock, two feet of which is naturally occurring
- \* If site has less than 18 inches of suitable existing soil over impervious soil. If maximum groundwater is less than 18 inches below grade.
- \* If naturally occurring soil cannot handle sewage flow.

24" for tidally influences and fast perc.

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

- \* **Local Health Agents:**
  - \* Must be authorized by director of health
- \* **DPH Certifications:**
  - \* Phase 1: All inspections, reviews, except PE plans
  - \* Phase 2: PE plan review certification

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Application for Permit or Approval**

- \* Must be made prior to site investigation, inspection or approval
- \* Be on application Forms (Form #1 or approved equal)
- \* Include a plot plan of the lot
- \* Can be rejected if incomplete

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**DPH** \* **Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

- \* **Site Investigation**
  - \* Must be conducted by P.E. or certified local health official (use Form 2 or 2a)
  - \* Includes soil test locations, soil percolation results, observations of groundwater and ledge rock.
  - \* Stipulates a conclusion as to the sites suitability for subsurface sewage disposal
  - \* Indicates any special design requirements or further testing

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Prior to the site investigation, the applicant shall:**

- \* Provide for the digging of percolation test holes and deep observation pits in the area of the proposed leaching system.
- \* Provide water for performing percolation tests.
- \* If required by the local DOH, locate field stakes for the leaching system, house, well or property lines.

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

- \* Site investigation must be conducted within 10 working days of application
- \* The local DOH must assure the accuracy of the findings of soil tests, deep observation pits and maximum ground water levels
- \* Leaching system size is based on percolation tests made in the area of the proposed leaching system
- \* Areas of special concern, or systems with flows over 2000 GPD may be required by the local DOH to provide further testing

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Submission of Plans:**

- \* Every plan shall be submitted to local DOH
- \* Must include all necessary information to verify public health code compliance
- \* Plan sent to state for review must be accompanied by local review comments
- \* Plans must be submitted to the state by local health department



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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Approval to Construct:**

- \* Approval from the local DOH may be granted if compliance with PHC Section 19-13-B103d has been demonstrated
- \* Approvals are valid for 1 year and may be renewed if reasonable cause is demonstrated for the failure to start construction within the 1 year period



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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

- \* Only persons licensed by the Commissioner of Public Health may construct subsurface sewage disposal systems and such person must notify the local DOH at least 24 hours prior to construction
- \* Systems with design flows of 2,000 GPD or greater (**max 7,500 GPD**) must be approved by DPH.

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Inspection**

- \* The local DOH must inspect all subsurface sewage disposal systems prior to covering.
- \* The system installer shall notify the local DOH prior to covering the system who shall inspect as soon as feasible, but no later than two (2) working days, unless the owner agrees to an extension.
- \* A final inspection report shall be prepared by the local DOH on forms approved by DPH as equivalent to Form #3 in the Technical Standards.
- \* An as-built plan shall be provided to the local DOH.

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Permit to Discharge**

- \* Issued by the local DOH upon determination that the subsurface sewage disposal system has been installed in compliance with public health code requirements.
- \* Specifies the manner, nature and volume of discharge.
- Specifies required operation and maintenance
- Be issued on forms approved by the Commissioner of Public Health.
- Records all exceptions granted.

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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Enforcement**

- \* The Permit to Discharge prohibits any sewage overflow, nuisance, or similar condition.
- \* If such a condition is found to exist, the permit shall be revoked, suspended, modified or otherwise limited and any such condition is subject to an order to abate the condition pursuant to CGS Section 19-79.



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**DPH** \* **B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals**

**Records**

- \* Copies of completed applications, investigations reports, review and inspection forms and as-built plans or record drawings of each subsurface sewage disposal system shall be kept in the local health department / district files for a minimum of 10 years .



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## \* B103e Procedure/Conditions for Issuance of Permits/Approvals

### Rights of Applicants

- \* All site investigations, inspections, review of plans and issuance of permits or approvals by the local DOH shall be made without reasonable delay (20 days when requested).
- \* Any Final decision of the local DOH made in regard to these sections shall be made in writing.
- \* The written decision shall be deemed equivalent to an order and may be appealed.

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## \* B103f Non-Discharging (pg. 9)

- \* Composting toilets
  - \* Replacement of privy or failing SSDS
  - \* CCA needed to approve for single family building
- \* Incineration Toilets
  - \* Can approve for non-residential
  - \* Existing single family building to replace failing SSDS or non-water toilets.
- \* Chemical Flush Toilets and Chemical Privies
  - \* Approve by local DOH and DPH when inside a building.
- \* Dry Vault Privies
  - \* Non-residential outside of building

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