CONNECTICUT PUBLIC HEALTH CODE

On-site Sewage Disposal Regulations, and Technical

Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems

PHC Section 19-13-B100a (Building Conversions, Changes in Use, Building Additions)

Effective August 3, 1998

PHC Section 19-13-B103 (Design Flows 5,000 Gallons per Day or Less)

Effective August 16, 1982

Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems

Effective August 16, 1982

Former revisions: 1986, 1989, 1992, 1994, 1997, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2011

Revised January 1, 2015

PHC Section 19-13-B104 (Design Flows Greater than 5,000 Gallons per Day)

Effective August 16, 1982

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Riser
Secondary Safety Lid

V. SEPTIC TANKS AND GREASE INTERCEPTOR TANKS

A. General

3. Septic Tank Access

Septic tanks shall have removable manhole covers to provide access for inspection and cleaning. Septic tanks shall have a minimum of 6 inches of cover. Cleanout manholes shall be located at a depth not greater than 12 inches below final grade. Existing septic tanks that exceed the 12-inch depth shall be retrofitted with a cleanout riser(s); riser retrofits are not required for non-cleanout openings (inspection & baffle openings) unless the opening provides access to an effluent filter. New tanks and existing tanks deeper than 24 inches below finish grade shall be provided with 24-inch minimum inside diameter access risers over each cleanout manhole opening. Riser cover assemblies shall be concrete or other durable material. Cleanouts shall consist of a minimum 17-inch inside diameter opening and shall be located directly over the inlet baffle and effluent filter (Figure 6). If riser assemblies are utilized over cleanout openings, it is recommended that the covers be left on the tank for safety reasons, and to avoid potential odor problems. If a riser cover weighs less than 59 pounds then the tank cover shall remain or a secondary safety lid or device shall be provided.

C. Grease interceptor tanks

Grease interceptor tanks (GITs) shall be provided for restaurants and other Class 3 and 4 food service establishments with design flows of 500 gallons per day (GPD) or greater for new construction, and repairs of existing SSDSs where feasible. If it is not feasible to install a GIT for a food service/restaurant SSDS repair, a mechanical automatic grease recovery unit (AGRU) is recommended for the internal wastewater piping in the kitchen. If a GIT or an internal AGRU is not included in a food service/restaurant SSDS repair, then the required septic tank capacity shall be increased by a minimum of 50 percent (Section V B).

GITs shall receive wastewater from the kitchen waste lines only. Effluent discharged from the GIT shall be directed to the inlet end of the septic tank. The capacity of GITs shall be a minimum of 1000 gallons and shall meet or surpass the 24-hour design flow. For restaurants and food service establishments with design flows of 2,000 GPD or greater, two GITs in series shall be provided with a combined liquid volume meeting or surpassing the 24-hour design flow. GITs shall have inlet and outlet baffles that extend to a depth of 6 to 12 inches above the tank bottom (Figure 7) and extend at least five inches above the liquid level. Effluent filters are not required on GITs, but they can be used if the manufacturer of the filter specifies that it is suitable for such use. All manholes over GIT cleanouts shall be watertight and extended to grade to facilitate cleaning. Tanks deeper than 24 inches below finish grade shall be provided with large (24-inch minimum inside diameter) access risers over each cleanout manhole opening. GITs shall be provided with manhole covers that have been placarded with notification as to the danger of entering the tank due to noxious gases. Covers to grade shall weigh a minimum of 59 pounds or the cover shall be provided with a lock system to prevent unauthorized entrance. If riser assemblies are utilized over cleanout openings, it is recommended that the tank covers be left on the GIT for safety reasons, and to avoid potential odor problems. If a riser cover weighs less than 59 pounds then the tank cover shall remain or a secondary safety lid or device shall be provided.

VI. EFFLUENT DISTRIBUTION, PUMP SYSTEMS & AIR INJECTION PROCESSES

B. Pump Systems

Effluent pump chambers shall be provided with watertight risers/manholes to grade and high-level alarms. Existing pump chambers shall be retrofitted with risers to grade if they are not currently provided. Pump chambers shall provide 24-inch minimum inside diameter risers over access manholes. Covers to grade shall weigh a minimum of 59 pounds or the cover shall be provided with a lock system to prevent unauthorized entrance. If riser assemblies are utilized over an access opening, it is recommended that the tank cover be left on the pump chamber for safety reasons, and to avoid potential odor problems. If a riser cover weighs less than 59 pounds then the chamber cover shall remain or a secondary safety lid or device shall be provided.

XI. NON-DISCHARGING TOILET & SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

G. Holding Tanks

Pursuant to PHC Section 19-13-B103c (a), the Commissioner of Public Health shall approve holding tanks for buildings governed by the scope of PHC Section 19-13-B103a. Holding tank proposals shall be submitted through the local director of health to the Commissioner of Public Health. Holding tanks shall include manholes to grade to facilitate routine pumping, and a high-level indicator alarm shall be provided. Covers to grade shall weigh a minimum of 59 pounds or the cover shall be provided with a lock system to prevent unauthorized entrance. When riser assemblies are utilized over cleanout openings, it is recommended that the covers be left on the holding tank for safety reasons, and to avoid potential odor problems. However, in no case shall a cover be left off a holding tank cleanout opening when a riser cover weighs less than 59 pounds unless a secondary safety lid or device is provided below the riser cover. Separating distances shall comply with Table 1.