



HENNEPIN COUNTY INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM PROGRAM



ORDINANCE INFORMATION AND JURISDICTION

Human Services and Public Health Department
Public Health Protection
Epidemiology and Environmental Health

Hennepin County provides a septic inspection and enforcement program in order to protect ground and surface waters, provide consistent regulation across city boundaries, and to prevent waterborne illness. The government ordinance, Hennepin County Ordinance No. 19, went into effect January 1, 2000. Ordinance No. 19 adopts the State of Minnesota Rules governing individual sewage treatment systems, MN Rules Chapter 7080.

Summary of Ordinance Number 19 Adopting MN Rules, Chapter 7080:

- *There is no Hennepin County requirement for inspection of the septic system for property transfer in Hennepin County's ordinance.* State law requires that information regarding the septic system must be properly disclosed to the buyer. A well-informed buyer will want a thorough inspection and many lending agencies require a compliance inspection on the existing system before providing a mortgage.
- Hennepin County inspects new septic systems, repairs on existing septic systems, and those existing septic systems that are the subject of a complaint investigation. *Hennepin County does not perform compliance inspections for existing septic systems.* There are many Inspectors licensed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and a list is available on their website. (Websites are listed at end of brochure.)

- Building permits are subject to septic permit approval or compliance inspection: all building permits for new commercial or new residential structures, any permits for bedroom(s) additions, any additions/remodeling of commercial facilities where water usage will be increased, any permits within designated shoreland areas, and any permits within designated wellhead protection areas.
- Existing systems, built before January 23, 1996, are considered in compliance if two feet of soil separation is provided and it is not classified as an Imminent Health Threat* (excludes shoreland areas; food, beverage, lodging facilities; wellhead protection areas; new construction).
*Imminent Health Threat means that sewage is surfacing on the ground, backing up into the home, or discharging to surface or ground water.
- Certificates of Compliance for *existing systems remain valid for three years*, unless identified as an Imminent Health Threat.*
- Certificates of Compliance for *new systems remain valid for five years*, unless identified as an Imminent Health Threat.*
- Systems receiving a Notice of Noncompliance, that are not an Imminent Health Threat*, have a *three year upgrade requirement*.
- There is a general setback of 50 feet to a wetland.
- Warrantied systems (MN Statutes Chapter 115.55) are prohibited.

Jurisdiction

Hennepin County provides a permitting and inspection program for those cities that have officially delegated their program to the county. In these cities we permit both residential and commercial septic systems. These cities currently include:

Brooklyn Center	MSP Airport
Brooklyn Park	Minnetonka
Champlin	Minnetonka Beach
Corcoran	Minnetrista
Crystal	Mound
Deephaven	Osseo
Edina	Plymouth
Excelsior	Robbinsdale
Golden Valley	Rockford
Greenwood	Shorewood
Long Lake	St. Anthony
Maple Plain	St. Bonifacius
Medicine Lake	Spring Park
Minneapolis	Tonka Bay

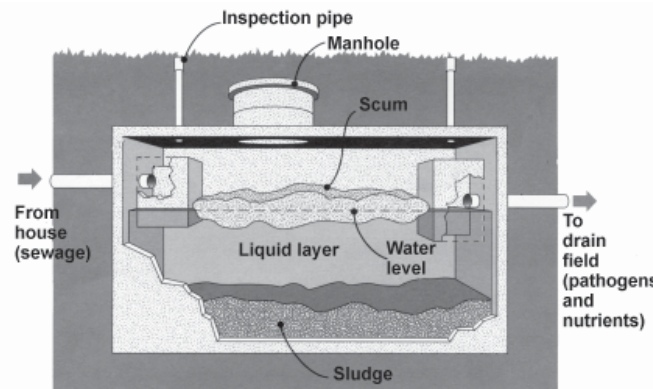
For specific information on the Hennepin County permitting process, see the Hennepin County homeowner brochure.

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Outside Jurisdiction

For information on septic systems in any city not in the prior list, please contact that city's building inspection department. Those cities are:

Bloomington	952-563-8934
Dayton	763-427-4589
Eden Prairie	952-949-8300
Greenfield	763-477-6464
Hanover	763-497-3777
Hassan Twp	763-428-4100
Hopkins	952-935-8474
Independence	763-479-0527
Loretto	763-479-4305
Maple Grove	763-494-6000
Medina	763-473-4643
New Hope	763-531-5100
Orono	952-249-4600
Richfield	612-861-9700
Rogers	763-428-2253
St. Louis Park	952-924-2500
Wayzata	952-404-5302
Woodland	952-474-4755



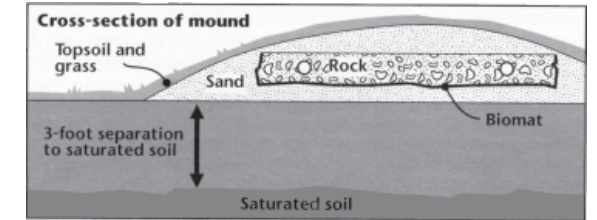
Websites

To view Hennepin County Ordinance No. 19, visit the Hennepin County website at: www.hennepin.us/septic. Click on #19 *Individual Sewage Treatment Systems Standards for Hennepin County*.

To view the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's State Rules regarding Individual Sewage Treatment Systems, visit the MN Office of the Revisor of Statutes website at: www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us. Click on *Laws Statutes, and Rules*, and under MN Rules click on *retrieve an entire chapter*. In the box type in 7080.

To view a list of all licensed septic contractors in the state or for other information on septic systems, visit the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's website at: www.pca.state.mn.us. Scroll down and click on *Programs*, then click on *Individual Sewage Treatment Systems (ISTS)*, and you can view fact sheets and a complete list of licensed contractors organized by county.

Another useful website is the University of Minnesota Extension Service at: www.extension.umn.edu/environment/ then select "sewage treatment."



The Minnesota On-site Water Association (MOWA) is also a good source of information. Their website: www.mowa-mn.com.

For more information on septic systems and Hennepin County's program, contact our office at:

1011 First Street South, Suite 215,
Hopkins, MN 55343
or call 612-543-5200, fax 952-351-5222
Email: epi-envhlth@co.hennepin.mn.us