

Introduction to Onsite Systems Exam Description

For subsurface sewage treatment systems

Introduction

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, in conjunction with a steering team and sounding board, has developed a Need to Know (N2K) document to identify the knowledge and skills each subsurface sewage treatment system professional is expected to acquire. The N2K document is the basis for a comprehensive exam consisting of 51 questions designed to test operator knowledge and skill level.

This document is intended as a study guide for operator exams. It lists percentages that weight the importance and complexity of each skill. As the N2K is updated, the exams and this document will also be updated.

Suggested study materials

- University of Minnesota Onsite Sewage Treatment Program manual and handouts
- Residential Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems manual by the Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment
- Minn. R. chs. 7080-7083

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|-------|-----------------------|-------------|
| I. | Rules and regulations | 20% |
| II. | What is sewage | 16% |
| III. | Soils | 28% |
| IV. | Soil treatment | 6% |
| V. | Septic tank | 4% |
| VI. | Sizing | 14% |
| VII. | System maintenance | 8% |
| VIII. | Math | 4% |
| | Total: | 100% |

Questions

Should you have questions or comments on the Exam Description, contact Jane Seaver, N2K coordinator, at 651-296-6300, 800-657-3864, or jane.seaver@pca.state.mn.us.