

VIDEO 3: RULES AND LAWS - MPCA SSTS ADMINISTRATIVE TRAINING

Barb McCarthy
and
Mark Wespetal

Introduction

Basic Administrative Information; Talk 3 of 13

Presenters: Barb McCarthy and Mark Wespetal

General Topic – SSTS Laws and Rules

- SSTS Laws
- SSTS Rules

Learning Outcomes

- Understand that laws, rules and local ordinances are important in regulating septic systems.
- Obtain a very general understanding of SSTS rules.
- Understand that sewage composition is variable.
- Identify SSTS products required to be registered.
- Understand there are 3 categories of designers and inspectors.

SSTS Laws, rules and ordinances

Minnesota Laws

- 115.55 – SSTS (Ordinances, Rules, Inspections, Straight Pipes)
- 115.551 – Tank Fee
- 115.56 – Mandatory Licensing Program
- 145A – Public Health Nuisance Law

SSTS Rules

- 7080 (1996-2007)
- 7080–7083 (4 chapters 2008-2012)

Local Ordinances

- County, city, township, special



SSTS Rules

Chapter 7080 (Individual-ISTS and Large-ISTS)

- Technical standards for SSTS up to 5,000 gal/day
 - Compliance criteria
 - Site evaluation
 - Soils evaluation
 - Sewage flows
 - Sewage tanks
 - Tank registration
 - System design and types
 - Maintenance
 - Abandonment



SSTS Rules

Chapter 7081 (Midsized; MSTTS)

- Technical Standards SSTS greater 5,000 to 10,000 gal/day
 - State permit trigger - 10,000 gal/day (design/estimated)
 - Groundwater impacts
 - Surface water impacts
 - Flow and waste strength
 - Site and soil evaluation
 - Sewage tanks
 - Design and construction
 - Operation and maintenance
 - Prescriptive Design Guidance



SSTS Rules

Chapter 7082 (SSTS Local Program Requirements)

- Ordinance requirements
- Responsibilities
- Annual SSTS report
- Permitting
- Management plans
- Operating permits
- Inspections and compliance
 - New
 - Replacement
 - Existing
- Record keeping
- Enforcement



SSTS Rules

Chapter 7083 (Licensing, product registration, committees)

- SSTS Licensing and Certification
 - Bonding and insurance
 - Qualified employees
 - Certification, exams, training, experience
 - Continuing education
 - Enforcement

- Product Registration
 - Treatment products
 - Distribution media products
 - Technical Advisory Panel

- SSTS Advisory Committee
 - Advise MPCA on the SSTS program



Design and inspection

Environmental Considerations - Based on System Size, Type and Location

1. ≤2,500 gal/day (lowest risk) – Basic Designer/Inspector; unless Advanced Treatment – Intermediate Designer/Inspector

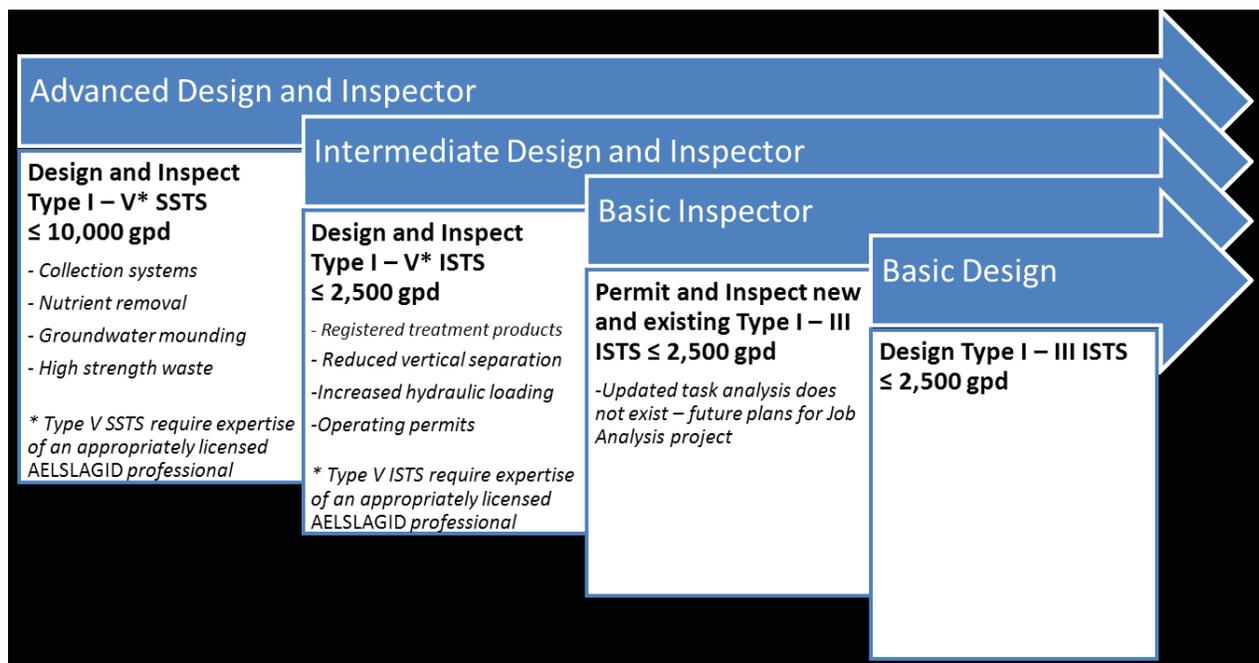
2. >2,500–5,000 gal/day (moderate risk)– Advanced Designer/Inspector; Nitrogen BMP to protect groundwater; may need operating permit

Design and inspection

Environmental Considerations - Based on System Size, Type and Location

3. >5,000 -10,000 gal/day (higher risk) - Advanced Designer/Inspector; may need help from PE, PSS, or PG; Groundwater mounding, Nitrogen removal; Phosphorus removal; Advanced Treatment; Operating Permit, Service Provider
4. >10,000 gal/day (highest risk) – PE and State Permit; Monitoring limits; Wastewater operator; Monthly monitoring reports

SSTS Rules



Waste Strength Important

- Not all sewage is the same
- Sewage with high organic concentration
 - Plugs up soil pores
- Residential-Strength
 - Most homes, apartments
 - BOD <170 mg/L
 - TSS <60 mg/L
 - FOG < 25 mg/L
- High-Strength
 - Restaurants, bars, coffee shops
 - Requires pre-treatment



Registered Products Sewage tanks

- Registration process - Sewage tanks
- List of sewage tanks on web
 - 37 manufacturers (as of May 2013)
 - 931 tank models
- Only registered tanks installed – started Jan. 1, 2013



Registered Products distribution media

▪ Distribution Media Products

- Used to distribute sewage effluent to the soil
 - Drainfield rock
 - Chambers
 - Bundled polystyrene aggregate
- List of distribution media on SSTS website
- Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)



Registered Products residential Treatment products

- Treatment Products – Residential Strength Sewage
- List on website – proprietary and public domain products
- Conditions of product use – letters posted on web
- Operating permits



Registered Products high-strength wastes

- Treatment Products – High Strength Sewage
- List of products to treat high-strength waste on website
- Conditions of product use – letters posted on web



Summary

- Laws, rules and local ordinances are important to SSTS regulations.
- SSTS rules are contained in four chapters.
- Technical SSTS standards are in chapters 7080 and 7081.
- Local administrative requirements are in chapter 7082.
- Registered products are in chapter 7083 - sewage tanks, distribution media products and treatment products required to be used.
- SSTS certification and licensing are in chapter 7083; Basic, Intermediate and Advanced practitioners required based on flow, waste strength, and system type.