

Sewage And Water Application Permit Request Information

Dickinson-Iron District Health Department

Many parcels of land available for residential homes are not served by a public sewer or water system. Homes in these areas use an on-site sewage system for wastewater disposal and a private water supply system. The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department is responsible for evaluating your property to determine if it is suitable to install these systems and to assist you in their location. The Superior Environmental Health Code regulates the installation of sewage and water supply systems for most residential building sites, and provides the minimum site standards. The Code also requires the sewage system installers to be licensed by the local health department and well drillers to be registered by the State Of Michigan. A copy of the Code is available upon request.

Neither the State of Michigan nor our local code requires that all newly constructed wells be inspected; however the homeowner is required to take a water sample on all newly installed wells. Inspections are performed upon request by the homeowner or on a random basis. All replacement wells will require both a preliminary site evaluation and a final inspection.

Some vacant parcels of land are not suitable, or at best are marginal, for an on-site sewage system. Many property owners have the misconception that soils are more or less all alike. However, differences in soil properties can occur within a short distance. Therefore, a building site must be carefully evaluated. The soil type and presence of limiting conditions such as seasonal high ground water or bedrock must be carefully evaluated. The soil serving an on-site sewage system must be capable of accepting and treating the daily quantity of sewage anticipated from the home before it enters the water table. Seasonal high ground water may interfere with the operation of a sewage disposal system and cause premature failure of the system. Water table and bedrock located near the ground surface, or excessively permeable soils, may allow sewage to contaminate a nearby well and/or surface water.

NOTE: Written permission is required from the Health Officer to install a sewage system between the dates of December 1ST and March 31ST.

Also, if the sewage system is to include a plastic septic tank, it must be one that has been approved by this department. A list is available upon request.

Site Evaluation Process

Prior to returning the completed application form to the department, please be sure to provide all of the information requested, as this will minimize the amount of time required to process your application. **If the applicant indicates the parcel is less than one acre in size, he/she must include a copy of the recorded deed.**

Because we have historically experienced some difficulty in always being successful in reaching the appropriate depth (72") with a soil auger, **a backhoe excavation shall be required for all future site evaluations.**

Once the application is processed, an Environmental Sanitarian will contact you to schedule a date and time to conduct the evaluation. During the evaluation it is very important for you to be present. This will allow the sanitarian to determine the most appropriate location of both the sewage and water supply system. Also, if the sewage system proposed location does not comply with Code requirements, you and the sanitarian can discuss alternate locations.

If the evaluation concludes that the site is in compliance with the Code, it will be approved. Within a week of completing the evaluation, the sanitarian will provide you with a site evaluation report and instructions for proceeding with the permitting process. Expect the entire permitting process to take one to two weeks.

If the evaluation concludes that the site is not in compliance with the Code, the sanitarian will provide you with a site evaluation report and a letter will be mailed to you indicating the reasons for non-compliance.

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**Requirements for Subdivisions and Land Divisions with
Parcels Less Than 1 Acre in Size Created After July 28, 1997**

These rules affect all parcels located in subdivisions, and also parcels located in land divisions when the parcels are less than 1 acre in size. These rules affect parcels, which were split from a parent parcel after July 28, 1997. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's "Administrative Rules for On-Site Water Supply and Sewage Disposal for Land Divisions and Subdivisions" regulate the approval process. These rules also apply to lots located in subdivisions plats. Copies of MDEQ rules are available upon request. Soil evaluations under this designation must be performed by a licensed professional engineer, professional land surveyor, registered sanitarian, professional geologist or soil scientist and be submitted to the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department for review.

Construction Permit Procedures Checklist

The enclosed checklist was designed to assist applicants who are building a new home. The appropriate approvals from various jurisdictions are in the order required to obtain a building permit. We recommend you follow the checklist and obtain the approvals that may be required for your project.

Current Fees

The department's fees effective February 1, 2010 for various on-site sewage disposal and water supply construction permit applications are summarized in the tables and examples provided below:

***Services requiring a site evaluation shall be subject to a mileage surcharge (SC).**

Mileage Surcharge (SC) By Township

**Any system installed within a designated city will be assessed the applicable Township Surcharge.*

Site Evaluation	\$237.00 SC
Sewage Disposal – Residential New Construction	\$161.00
Sewage Disposal - Replacement (permit on file in current property owner's name)	\$311.00 SC
Tank Only	\$120.00
Sewage Disposal – Commercial Establishment	\$592.00 SC
Water Supply - Residential New Construction	\$166.00
Water Supply - Replacement	\$237.00 SC

Dickinson County		Iron County	
Breitung	\$9.00	Bates	\$8.00
Norway	\$11.00	Crystal Falls	\$22.00
Waucedah	\$18.00	Hematite	\$22.00
Sagola	\$20.00	Iron River	\$10.00
Breen	\$29.00	Mansfield	\$25.00
Felch	\$23.00	Mastodon	\$20.00
West Branch	\$34.00	Stambaugh	\$22.00
Mastodon	\$20.00		
Quinnesec	\$9.00		

Examples

The total amount of fees a property owner would be required to pay for new sewage and water supply permits in Breitung Township are as follows:

Site Evaluation	\$237.00
New Sewage Construction Permit	\$161.00
New Water Construction Permit	\$166.00
Mileage SC	\$ 9.00
Total	\$573.00

The total amount of fees a property owner would be required to pay for a replacement well permit in Stambaugh Township is as follows:

Replacement Water Construction Permit	\$237.00
Mileage SC	\$ 21.00
Total	\$258.00