

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FILING PROPOSED RULES WITH THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY Arkansas Department of Health
DIVISION Environmental Health Services
DIVISION DIRECTOR _____
CONTACT PERSON Laura Shue, General Counsel
ADDRESS 4815 West Markham, Slot 35, Little Rock, AR 72205
PHONE NO. (501) 661-2297 FAX NO. _____ E-MAIL Laura.Shue@arkansas.gov
NAME OF PRESENTER AT COMMITTEE MEETING Laura Shue, General Counsel
PRESENTER E-MAIL Laura.Shue@arkansas.gov

INSTRUCTIONS

- A. Please make copies of this form for future use.
- B. Please answer each question completely using layman terms. You may use additional sheets if necessary.
- C. If you have a method of indexing your rules, please give the proposed citation after "Short Title of this Rule" below.
- D. Rule" below.
- E. Submit two (2) copies of the Questionnaire and Financial Impact Statement attached to the front of two (2) copies of the proposed rule and required documents. Mail or deliver to:

Jessica C. Sutton
Administrative Rules Review Section
Arkansas Legislative Council
Bureau of Legislative Research
One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Little Rock, AR 72201

1. What is the short title of this rule? Rules Pertaining to Drip Dispersal Systems

2. What is the subject of the proposed rule? To promote health through safe and adequate sewage disposal

3. Is this rule required to comply with a federal statute, rule, or regulation? Yes No

If yes, please provide the federal rule, regulation, and/or statute citation.

4. Was this rule filed under the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

If yes, what is the effective date of the emergency rule? _____

When does the emergency rule expire? _____

Will this emergency rule be promulgated under the permanent provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

5. Is this a new rule? Yes No If yes, please provide a brief summary explaining the rule.

Does this repeal an existing rule? Yes No If yes, a copy of the repealed rule is to be included with your completed questionnaire. If it is being replaced with a new rule, please provide a summary of the rule giving an explanation of what the rule does.

Is this an amendment to an existing rule? Yes No If yes, please attach a mark-up showing the changes in the existing rule and a summary of the substantive changes. Note: The summary should explain what the amendment does, and the mark-up copy should be clearly labeled "mark-up."

6. Cite the state law that grants the authority for this proposed rule? If codified, please give the Arkansas Code citation.

A.C.A. §14-236-101 et seq.

7. What is the purpose of this proposed rule? Why is it necessary?

The changes provide for modifications to various disposal specifications and language clean up.

8. Please provide the address where this rule is publicly accessible in electronic form via the Internet as required by Arkansas Code § 25-19-108(b).

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/proposed-amendment-to-existing-rules>

9. Will a public hearing be held on this proposed rule? Yes No If yes, please complete the following:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

10. When does the public comment period expire for permanent promulgation? (Must provide a date.)

12/17/2021

11. What is the proposed effective date of this proposed rule? (Must provide a date.)

01/01/2022

12. Please provide a copy of the notice required under Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(a), and proof of the publication of said notice. _____

13. Please provide proof of filing the rule with the Secretary of State as required pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e). _____

14. Please give the names of persons, groups, or organizations that you expect to comment on these rules? Please provide their position (for or against) if known.

Unknown

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

DEPARTMENT Arkansas Department of Health

DIVISION Environmental Health Services

PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT Laura Shue, General Counsel

TELEPHONE NO. (501) 661-2297 **FAX NO.** _____ **EMAIL:** Laura.Shue@arkansas.gov

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file two (2) copies with the Questionnaire and proposed rules.

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE Rules Pertaining to Drip Dispersal Systems

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact? Yes No

2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule?
Yes No

3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? Yes No

If an agency is proposing a more costly rule, please state the following:

- a) How the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;

- b) The reason for adoption of the more costly rule;

- c) Whether the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, please explain; and

- d) Whether the reason is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority, and if so, please explain.

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please state the following:

a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
 Federal Funds _____
 Cash Funds _____
 Special Revenue _____
 Other (Identify) _____

General Revenue _____
 Federal Funds _____
 Cash Funds _____
 Special Revenue _____
 Other (Identify) _____

Total \$ 0.00 _____

Total \$ 0.00 _____

b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
 Federal Funds _____
 Cash Funds _____
 Special Revenue _____
 Other (Identify) _____

General Revenue _____
 Federal Funds _____
 Cash Funds _____
 Special Revenue _____
 Other (Identify) _____

Total \$ 0.00 _____

Total \$ 0.00 _____

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, entity and business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Identify the entity(ies) subject to the proposed rule and explain how they are affected.

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

\$ _____

\$ _____

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to state, county, and municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

\$ _____

\$ _____

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?
Yes No

If YES, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
 - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and
 - (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
 - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
 - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
 - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Asa Hutchinson

José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE RULES PERTAINING TO DRIP DISPERSAL SYSTEMS

November 12, 2021

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to Act 402 of 1977 the Department, through the Board of Health, has authority to promulgate the Rules Pertaining to Drip Dispersal Systems. These rules promote health through creating specifications for safe and adequate sewage disposal. The Board of Health voted to move forward with these amendments on July 22, 2021.

KEY POINTS

The proposed rule:

- Updates dispersal Specifications
- Cleans up various language
- Provides for the addition of a rules disclaimer

DISCUSSION

The following additions are being proposed for the Rules Pertaining to Drip Dispersal Systems.:

Add summary of rules disclaimer on page 2

○ IMPORTANT!

These rules are designed for use with individual residential, small commercial, or decentralized wastewater systems (defined as 10,000 gpd or less) utilizing drip dispersal.

The soil loading rates authorized in this rule shall only be utilized with the water usage tables of Appendix B in Rules and Regulations pertaining to Onsite Wastewater Systems.

When using these rules for subdivision development with a decentralized wastewater treatment and collection system, an estimated water usage rate of no less than 400 gallons per day per lot shall be utilized. Subdivisions utilizing individual onsite wastewater systems are still required to be designed on standard, conventional systems for subdivision review process.

- Add Table 1 DRIP DISPERSAL FIELD SIZING AND LOADING RATE CHART FOR MODERATE HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY SOILS

- Add Table 2 DRIP DISPERSAL FIELD SIZING AND LOADING RATE CHART FOR LOW HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY SOILS

- Add 3.1.2

o Low hydraulic conductivity shall include soils with 40% or greater clay. Clay percentage shall be determined from in depth zone extending 6” above and 12” below installed drip tubing depth.

- Add 3.1.3

o No loading rates are available for low hydraulic conductivity soils with greater than 60% clay.

- Add 3.1.4

o Systems utilizing drip dispersal must maintain minimum of 9” separation between drip tubing and any rock substrata (consolidated or fractured) for soils that exhibit a moderate and/or long SWT.

- Add 3.1.5

o Systems utilizing drip dispersal must maintain minimum of 15” separation between drip tubing and any rock substrata (consolidated or fractured) for soils that exhibit only a brief SWT or do not exhibit a SWT.

- Replace “Appendix A” with “Appendix B of the Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Onsite Wastewater Systems” in 5.3

- Add “or dole type” to 13.1.

o The flush valve shall be a solenoid or dole type valve.

- Add 20.4

o Residential systems utilizing drip dispersal designs shall include a minimum of 500 sq. ft. of absorption area per bedroom regardless of SWT depths.

The following deletions are being proposed:

Remove “AND REGULATIONS” from Title

- Remove Section 22 Surface Discharging Drip Systems and renumber Sections 23-27

- Remove Table 1 Drip Dispersal Field Size chart

- Remove Appendix A Quantities of Wastewater Flow for Various Types of Establishments

- Remove original 3.1.1
 - o The minimum vertical separation between the drip tubing or installed trench bottom and any rock substrata (consolidated or fractured) shall be nine (9) inches or greater of undisturbed, natural soil.
- Remove original 3.1.2
 - o The percent clay of a soil may be interpreted as a Seasonal Water Table Class Clay percentage, as it related to seasonal water table interpretation, is cited in Section 8 of the Onsite Wastewater Regulations
- Remove the phrase “For lots three (3) acres or greater, the use of a surface discharge drip system may be considered. (See Surface Discharge Systems) from original 3.1.4
- Remove Section 7.1
 - o Timed dosing is the only method for controlling the dose cycles and volumes.

RECOMMENDATION

ADH recommends that the proposed amendments to the Rules Pertaining to Drip Dispersal Systems be approved.