

# Ohio Sewage Code Changes 2015

Summit County Public Health



# New Rules for the State of Ohio

- ▶ On January 1, 2015, a new set of sewage rules went into effect to govern all STS (Sewage Treatment Systems) in the State of Ohio
- ▶ The code it replaces was created in 1977 and was significantly outdated
- ▶ Like most Ohio local health districts, SCPH has maintained a more stringent set of local rules for most of this period of time.

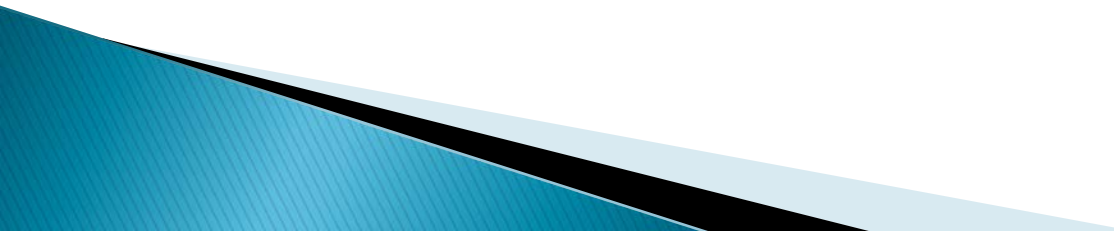
Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3701-29



# State Code Changes:

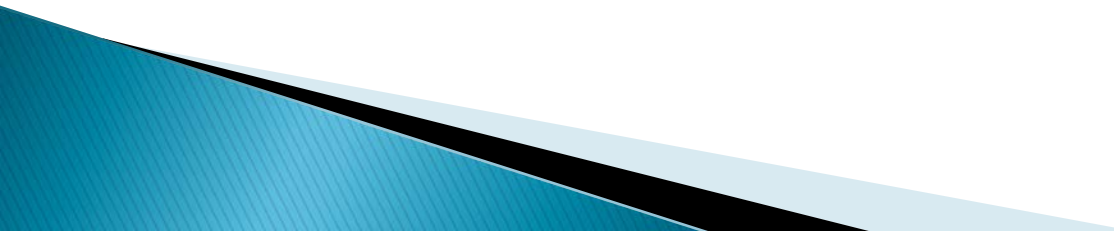
- ▶ Private sewage contractors:
  - Must pass an ODH test prior to registration
  - Must obtain insurance and bonding
- ▶ ODH to survey each LHD program every 3 yrs
- ▶ Expanded option on soil evaluations
- ▶ Elimination of SCPH isolation distance requirements
- ▶ System design menu of options increased:
  - Spray irrigation
  - Separate gray water treatment systems

# State Code Changes:

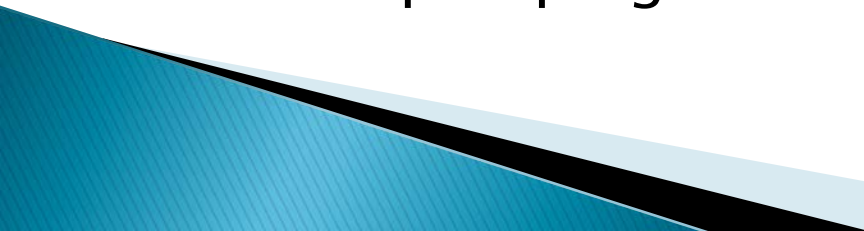
- ▶ Requires LHD to create operation & maintenance programs
  - ▶ Requires LHD to issue operation permits
  - ▶ Septage and sewage management
  - ▶ More stringent local codes to be reviewed and approved by ODH
  - ▶ Increased reporting requirements for service providers and pumpers
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# Local Options provided in Rule

The State rules provide LHD with limited options on customizing program administration. Some highlights are:

- LHD may regulate small commercial systems
  - Waive registration fee, liability insurance, bonding for persons installing their own system
  - Adopt fees
  - Must establish a plan for development of an operation & maintenance plan
  - Establish operation permit terms and conditions
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# Operation & Maintenance Inspections

- ▶ SCPH began O&M inspections in 2004 applying to discharging systems, approximately 11,000 systems were included in this program
  - ▶ O&M will now be required on all systems, about 33,000 systems will now be included in the program
  - ▶ Homeowner may have a private service provider inspect and provide maintenance in lieu SCPH inspection and inspection fee
  - ▶ Service providers must submit inspection data to SCPH
  - ▶ Mandatory pumping frequency is gone, service providers must measure the sludge in tanks and advise pumping as needed
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# Operation Permit and Operation Inspection

- ▶ Operation Inspection
  - Done by SCPH staff
  - Done on visible components only
  - Done on a Pass/Fail basis

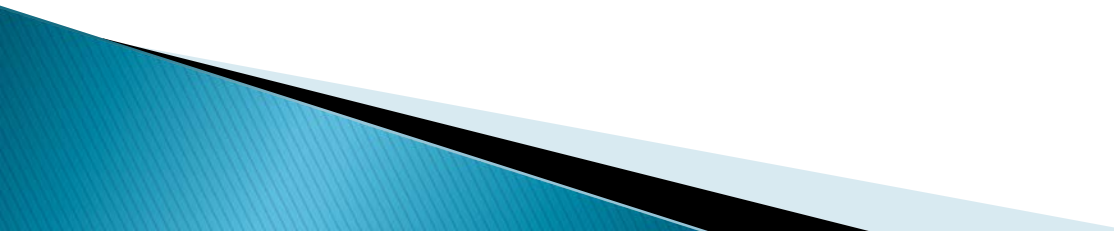
## Operation Permit

Done by a registered service provider

Requires a report to SCPH

Has a different set of requirements for each type of system

# Operation Permits

- ▶ SCPH will issue an operation permit to owners of each Sewage Treatment System
  - ▶ Owners will need to periodically renew the permits
  - ▶ Owners will need to provide proof of compliance with the permit conditions or be subject to an Operation Inspection by SCPH staff
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# Operation Permits 2015

In late April of 2015 SCPH will be issuing Operation Permits to all of the following residential septic systems:

- ▶ All NPDES systems
- ▶ 2007–2013 non –NPDES systems installed in odd years
- ▶ Discharging systems installed prior to 2007 in odd years

Approximately 7100 systems will be issued permits

NPDES permits will last 1 year

All other permits will last 2 years

# Operation Permit 2016

In 2016, Operation Permits will be issued to the following residential septic systems:

- ▶ All NPDES systems
- ▶ 2008–2014 non-NPDES systems installed in even years
- ▶ Discharging systems installed prior to 2007 in even years

Approximately 7100 systems will be issued permits

# Operation Permit 2017

2017 Operation permits will be issued to the following STS:

- ▶ All NPDES systems
- ▶ All other STS installed in odd years or if the installation date is unknown systems installed or constructed in odd years

*\* Approximately 17500 systems will be issued permits*

- ▶ Permits issued to on-lot septic systems will last for 2 years

# Operation Permit 2018

2018 Operation permits will be issued to the following STS:

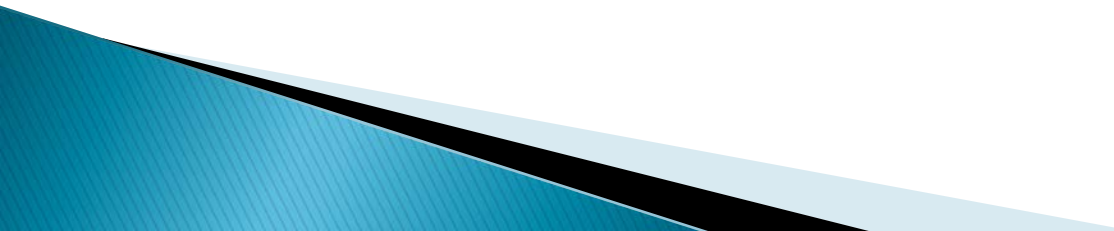
- ▶ All NPDES systems
- ▶ All other STSs installed in even years or if the installation date is unknown systems installed or constructed in even years
- ▶ *\* Approximately 17500 systems will be issued permits*

*\* All STS will be covered under an Operation Permit*

# Operation Permit Cost to Home Owners

- ▶ NPDES permit will last 1 year and cost \$30.00
- ▶ On lot septic system permits will last 2 years and cost \$20.00
- ▶ All other Operation Permits will last 2 years and cost \$30.00

# What is required of Homeowners

- ▶ Homeowners must have an Operation Permit
  - ▶ Homeowners with NPDES (EPA) approved systems must complete required sampling and have a service contract
  - ▶ All other homeowners with any type of septic system must either complete the required maintenance or be subject to the SCPH routine inspection program
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# What is required of Service Providers?

- ▶ Each septic system has a set of minimum requirements
- ▶ You must submit our inspection report via email or US Mail for each system you service
- ▶ SCPH will be doing Quality Assurance inspections on all service providers that choose to provide this required maintenance.
- ▶ Reports or comments on forms can be sent via email to [servicereports@schd.org](mailto:servicereports@schd.org)

# Questions?

- ▶ Please feel free to contact Summit County  
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