

TRICOUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TCHD ALT-317

RULE GOVERNING THE USE, PERMITTING, AND
MAINTENANCE OF ALTERNATIVE ONSITE WASTEWATER
SYTSEMS AND GRAY WATER SYSTEMS

Adopted by TriCounty Health Department

Board of Health

September 30, 2011

Under Authority of Section

26A-1-114

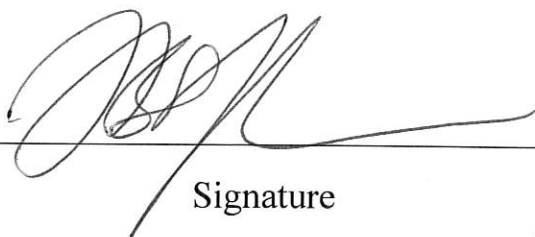
CERTIFIED OFFICIAL COPY

TRICOUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BY

Joseph B. Shaffer, M.A., M.B.A., E.H.S.

Director/Health Officer



Signature

**TRICOUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
RULE GOVERNING THE USE, PERMITTING, AND MAINTENANCE OF
ALTERNATIVE ONSITE WASTEWATER SYSTEMS AND GRAY WATER SYSTEMS**

The purpose of this rule is to ensure that alternative onsite wastewater systems and gray water systems are designed, installed, operated, and maintained in a manner that will protect the health and safety of individuals and ensure the integrity of the water quality throughout the TriCounty Health Department jurisdiction.

DEFINITIONS

Alternative onsite wastewater system: means a system for treatment and disposal of domestic wastewater or wastes which consists of a building sewer, a septic tank or other sewage treatment or storage unit, and a disposal facility or method which is not a conventional system; but not including a surface discharge to the waters of the state.

At Grade System: means an alternative type of onsite wastewater system where the bottom of the absorption system is placed at or below the elevation of the existing site grade, and the top of the distribution pipe is above the elevation of existing site grade, and the absorption system is contained within a fill body that extends above that grade.

Certification: refers to Rule R317-11. Certification Required to: Design, Inspect and Maintain Underground Wastewater Disposal Systems, or Conduct Percolation and Soil Tests for Underground Wastewater Disposal Systems. Certification in this document means Level 3 onsite professional certification as defined in R317-11. This certification program is administered by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality.

Mound System: means an alternative onsite wastewater system where the bottom of the absorption system is placed above the elevation of the existing site grade, and the absorption system is contained in a mounded fill body above that grade.

Packed Bed System: means a pre-treatment system using natural or synthetic media that treats wastewater strength levels lower than normally found in septic tank, or grease trap effluent; biological treatment is facilitated via microbial growth on the surface of the media. System may include, but not required, a dosing tank, recirculation tank and a dispersal field.

Pressure Distribution: means the method designed to uniformly distribute dosing tank or treatment unit effluent under pressure to the dispersal component.

Pretreatment System: means any component or combination of components that provides treatment of wastewater prior to conveyance to a final treatment and dispersal component. Does not include septic tank or grease trap.

Graywater: is untreated wastewater, which has not come into contact with toilet waste. Graywater includes wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom washbasins, clothes washing machines, laundry tubs, etc., and does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks, photo lab sinks, dishwashers, garage floor drains, or other hazardous chemicals.

Graywater system: is a secondary wastewater system to allow treatment of graywater through

subsurface irrigation.

Installer: means a homeowner or a qualified person with an appropriate contractor's license and state wastewater certification, with knowledge of the installation or repair of the proposed alternate onsite wastewater system. The installer is not required to do the labor, but must have direct supervision, and is responsible for proper construction.

Recorded on property deed: means evidence of the existence of an alternate onsite wastewater system must be recorded in the county where the property is located per the county's requirements.

Rule TCHD ALT 317

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Except as outlined in this rule, all requirements of the state "Onsite Wastewater Systems" rule, R317-4, or "Gray Water Systems" rule, R317-401 and all applicable local rules must be met before an alternative onsite wastewater system may be installed, operated, or maintained.
- B. If groundwater is the reason an alternate system is needed, the groundwater shall be monitored through the high water season as determined by "TriCounty Health Department Standards for Determination of Ground Water Elevation", unless groundwater monitoring information is already available. The construction permit will not be issued until the elevation of the highest groundwater is determined. This monitoring period will not exceed one year.
- C. Any individual installing, or maintaining an alternative onsite wastewater system or gray water system in TriCounty Health Department District must be certified as a Level 3 onsite professional as provided in R317-11 Utah Administrative Code, as amended.
- D. No alternative onsite wastewater system or gray water system may be constructed or installed until a construction permit is obtained from the TriCounty Health Department, and no alternative onsite wastewater system may be operated or used until an operating permit is obtained from TriCounty Health Department. All onsite wastewater systems require a construction permit and an operating permit.
- E. A construction permit will only be issued when the following requirements are met:
 - 1. All submission, design and siting requirements outlined in R317-4, R317-401, this rule, and any additional requirements imposed during the review process, have been met.
 - 2. Operation and maintenance instructions for the specific system have been submitted and preliminarily reviewed by TriCounty Health Department for feasibility.
 - 3. All applicable fees have been paid.
- F. An operating permit is required for each alternative onsite wastewater system or gray

water system as outlined for the specific type of system in Section II of this rule.

- G. New subdivisions with lot sizes less than five acres may have up to 10% of lots that require an alternate onsite wastewater systems to be considered for approval. Lots requiring alternate onsite wastewater systems must be recorded on the final plat.

II. SYSTEM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

A. At-Grade Systems

1. The initial operating permit must be issued prior to operation and will only be issued when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The at-grade system has been installed according to the approved design.
 - b. Must submit proof that the existence of an alternate onsite wastewater system has been recorded on the property deed.
 - c. Must submit a contract with a certified person for inspections and maintenance of the alternate onsite wastewater system.
 - d. The operation and maintenance instructions have been finalized and approved by TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All other requirements of the construction permit have been met.
 - f. All applicable fees have been paid.
2. The initial operating permit must be reviewed annually and will only continue when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The system is operated and maintained as approved.
 - b. The system is not deemed "non-compliant" as per this rule.
 - c. The semi-annual inspections by a certified person have been completed during the first year of use and annually thereafter, and all identified issues have been addressed.
 - d. All operation and maintenance records have been verified by property owner and submitted to TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All applicable fees have been paid.
3. At-grade systems shall be reviewed annually for a total of five years. After five years of permitted operation, the system will be reviewed when requested.

B. Pressurized Distribution System

1. The initial operating permit must be issued prior to operation and will only be issued when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The pressurized distribution system has been installed according to the approved design.
 - b. Must submit proof that the existence of an onsite wastewater system with pressurized distribution has been recorded on the property deed.
 - c. Must submit a contract with a certified person for inspections and maintenance of

- the pressurized distribution system.
 - d. The operation and maintenance instructions have been finalized and approved by TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All other requirements of the construction permit have been met.
 - f. All applicable fees have been paid.
1. The initial operating permit must be reviewed annually and will only continue when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The system is operated and maintained as approved.
 - b. The system is not deemed “non-compliant” as per this rule.
 - c. The semi-annual inspections by a certified person have been completed during the first year of use and annually thereafter for a total of five years, and all identified issues have been addressed.
 - d. All operation and maintenance records have been verified by property owner and submitted to TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All applicable fees have been paid.
 2. Pressurized distribution systems shall be reviewed annually for a total of five years. After five years of permitted operation, the operating permit will be reviewed when requested.

C. Mound Systems

1. All horizontal setbacks shall be measured from the toe of the finished mound.
2. The initial operating permit shall be valid for five years, must be issued prior to operation and will only be issued when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The mound system has been installed and tested according to the approved design.
 - b. Must submit proof that the existence of an alternate onsite wastewater system has been recorded on the property deed.
 - c. Must submit a contract with a certified person for inspections and maintenance of the alternate onsite wastewater system.
 - d. The operation and maintenance instructions have been finalized and approved by TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All other requirements of the construction permit have been met.
 - f. All applicable fees have been paid.
3. The initial operating permit must be reviewed annually and will only continue when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The system is operated and maintained as approved.
 - b. The system is not deemed “non-compliant” as per this rule.
 - c. The semi-annual inspections by a certified person have been completed, and all identified issues have been addressed.
 - d. All operation and maintenance records have been verified by property owner and submitted to the TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All applicable fees have been paid.

4. The operating permit for a mound system will expire after five years and must be renewed.

D. Packed Bed Media Systems

1. The initial operating permit shall be valid for five years, must be issued prior to operation and may only be issued when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The packed bed media system has been installed and tested according to the approved design.
 - b. Must submit proof that the existence of an alternate onsite wastewater system has been recorded on the property deed.
 - c. Must submit a contract with a certified person for inspections and maintenance of the alternate onsite wastewater system.
 - d. The operation and maintenance instructions have been finalized and approved by TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All other requirements of the construction permit have been met.
 - f. All applicable fees have been paid.
2. The initial operating permit must be reviewed annually and may only be continued when the following requirements are met:
 - a. Semi-annual results, from a Utah State certified lab, of effluent quality testing are submitted to TriCounty Health Department for the following parameters;
 - i. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) – maximum 25 mg/l
 - ii. Total Suspended Solids (TSS) - maximum 25 mg/l
 - iii. Turbidity – maximum 20 NTU
 - iv. Any additional testing required by TriCounty Health Department
 - b. Results, from a Utah State certified lab, of any other required effluent quality testing and/or retesting are submitted to the TriCounty Health Department.
 - c. The system is operated and maintained as approved.
 - d. The system is not deemed “non-compliant” as per this rule.
 - e. The semi-annual inspections by a certified person have been completed, and all identified issues have been addressed.
 - f. All operation and maintenance records have been verified by property owner and submitted to TriCounty Health Department.
 - g. All applicable fees have been paid.
3. The operating permit for a packed bed media system will expire after five years and must be renewed.

E. Pretreatment Systems

1. The initial operating permit must be issued prior to operation and will only be issued when the following requirements are met:

- a. The pretreatment system has been installed according to the approved design.
 - b. Must submit proof that the existence of an onsite wastewater pretreatment system has been recorded on the property deed.
 - c. Must submit a contract with a certified person for inspections and maintenance of the alternate onsite wastewater system.
 - d. The operation and maintenance instructions have been finalized and approved by TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All other requirements of the construction permit have been met.
 - f. All applicable fees have been paid.
2. The initial operating permit must be reviewed annually and will only continue when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The system is operated and maintained as approved.
 - b. The system is not deemed “non-compliant” as per this rule.
 - c. The semi-annual inspections by a certified person have been completed during the first year of use and annually thereafter, and all identified issues have been addressed.
 - d. All operation and maintenance records have been verified by property owner and submitted to TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All applicable fees have been paid.
 3. Pretreatment systems shall be reviewed annually for a total of five years. After five years of permitted operation, the system will be reviewed when requested.

F. Gray Water Systems

1. The initial operating permit must be issued prior to operation and will only be issued when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The gray water system has been installed according to the approved design.
 - b. Must submit proof that the existence of a gray water system has been recorded on the property deed.
 - c. Must submit a contract with a certified person for inspections and maintenance of the gray water system.
 - d. The operation and maintenance instructions have been finalized and approved by TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All other requirements of the construction permit have been met.
 - f. All applicable fees have been paid.
2. The initial operating permit must be reviewed annually and may only continue when the following requirements are met:
 - a. The system is operated and maintained as approved.
 - b. The system is not deemed “non-compliant” as per this rule.
 - c. The semi-annual inspections by a certified person have been completed during the first year of use and annually thereafter for five years, and all identified issues have been addressed.
 - d. All operation and maintenance records have been verified by property owner and submitted to TriCounty Health Department.
 - e. All applicable fees have been paid.

3. The operating permit for a gray water system will expire after five years and must be renewed.

III. NON-COMPLIANT SYSTEMS

A. A system shall be deemed non-compliant if any of the following conditions exist:

1. The system is “malfunctioning” as defined by R317-4-1.40
2. Any equipment is malfunctioning.
3. The system does not continually meet the approved design and siting requirements.
4. The system is not operated as approved.
5. The system is not maintained or inspected by a certified person.
6. All applicable fees have not been paid.
7. The system does not have a current “operating permit”.

B. A system that has been deemed to be non-compliant for more than 30 days or a system that has been deemed to be non-compliant and poses an imminent public health risk shall be subject to legal action by fine, citation or as described in Title 26A, Utah State Code, as amended.

The TriCounty Board of Health passed, approved, and adopted this rule the 21 day of September, 2011.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Shaffer', is written over a horizontal line.

**Joseph B. Shaffer, M.A., M.B.A., E.H.S. Director/Health Officer
TriCounty Health Department**



State of Utah

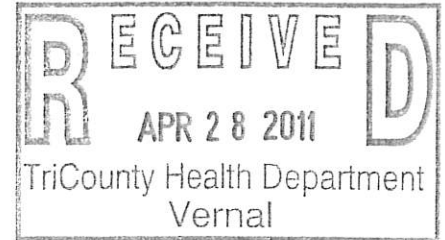
GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director



April 28, 2011

Mr. Joseph B. Shaffer, M.A., M.B.A., E.H.S.
TriCounty Health Department Director/ Health Officer
133 South 500East
Vernal, UT 84078


Dear Mr. Shaffer:

Subject: Approval To Permit and Administer Alternative
Onsite Systems & Gray Water Systems


We received your letter and supporting documents, requesting approval for administration and oversight of alternative onsite systems and gray water systems as required by Utah Administrative Code R317-4 and R317-401. We have reviewed the information that you have submitted and have determined that it complies with all requirements for alternative onsite wastewater regulations that coincide with the changes in the rule that were effective July 1, 2006.

You may now proceed to issue permits for construction of Alternative Onsite Systems including Gray Water Systems.

When you adopt the final ordinance to cover costs, extra administration, annual permits, etc., regarding these alternative systems, please send us a copy for our records.

We appreciate the work you have done in developing your alternative onsite wastewater program. If you have any comments or questions, please contact David Snyder, of my staff, at (801) 536-4329.

Sincerely,


Walt L. Baker, P.E.
Director

WLB:DGS:dgs
F:\TRI COUNTY HD\Tricounty alt system approval.doc

195 North 1950 West • Salt Lake City, UT
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 144870 • Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870
Telephone (801) 536-4300 • Fax (801) 536-4301 • T.D.D. (801) 536-4414

www.deq.utah.gov
Printed on 100% recycled paper