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NPDES Section Now Accepting Mail Electronically

The NPDES Section is now accepting mail electronically, due to DNR no longer supporting the routing of physical mail. Please submit mail to the NPDES Section as follows:

Regular Mail:

- Submit all NPDES documents except permit applications and fees to: npdes.mail@dnr.iowa.gov.
- This includes general correspondence, public notices, compliance schedule updates, disadvantaged community analyses, Notices of Intent for General Permit #4, and septic pumper license information.

Fees:

- Permit fees will not be accepted at the above email address.
- To pay an NPDES permit fee (or application fee), complete and mail the fee invoice together with a check or money order.
- To pay a fee by credit card, email the completed fee invoice form to webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, then call 515-725-8200 to pay the fee.

Permit Applications:

- Submit individual permit applications to: npdes.permit.application@dnr.iowa.gov. Only individual permit applications will be accepted at this email address.
- Storm water general permit applications (Notices of Intent) can be submitted electronically at: <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/stormwater/pages/eAppIntro.aspx>

Proposed Changes to Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is proposing to initiate rule making for 567 Iowa Administrative Code subrule 64.2(9)“b”. The purpose of this rule making is to revise and update select chapters of the Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards.

The Design Standard chapters included in the proposed rulemaking are:

- Chapter 11 – Project Submittals
- Chapter 12 – Iowa Standards for Sewer Systems
- Chapter 13 – Wastewater Pumping Stations and Force Mains
- Chapter 14 – Wastewater Treatment Works
- Chapter 18C – Wastewater Treatment Ponds (Lagoons)

Please see IDNR's [Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards webpage](#) for a draft of the proposed changes dated May 2021.

The IDNR held stakeholder meetings on June 19, 2018, June 21, 2018, and September 18, 2018 to discuss the proposed changes to these chapters of the Wastewater Facilities Design Standards. The Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, Iowa Association of Business and Industry, Iowa Water Environment Association, American Council of Engineering Companies of Iowa, and the Iowa Engineering Society were sent invitations to the above-mentioned stakeholder meetings. Comments were solicited from various interested parties including the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, Iowa Economic Development Authority – Community Development Block Grant (IEDA-CDBG), United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA-RD), and the general public. Comments were received and addressed by staff and several changes were incorporated into the proposed design standards. These comments and staff responses can be viewed on the website listed above.

The next step in the rule making process is to submit the draft rule package to the Governor's office for pre-clearance approval. The pre-clearance package is expected to be submitted in June 2021.

Please contact Satya Chennupati at satya.chennupati@dnr.iowa.gov or 515-725-8436 with any questions or comments on the proposed rule changes. Written comments on this version of the proposed rules will be addressed during the formal rulemaking process. Formal rulemaking is expected to take place after receiving pre-clearance approval from the Governor's office.

Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities

Online and virtual training opportunities are being created and offered through community colleges, state industry associations, national industry associations, EPA, and other state industry partners. All operators should continue to monitor their emails and the Training Calendar on the [Iowa DNR Operator Certification Database](#). Look at the calendar often, as there are new opportunities posted throughout the week.

Please contact Laurie Sharp at (515) 725-0284 with any questions concerning operator certification training.