



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Wastewater News

Environmental Services

- [Water Supply, Wastewater, Sludge, and Operator Certification Rule Changes are Effective](#)
- [FY 2022 Intended Use Plan Q4 Updates Approved](#)
- [Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities](#)

Water Supply, Wastewater, Sludge, and Operator Certification Rule Changes are Effective

Updates to several portions of the departments' water supply rules, the wastewater rules, the sludge/biosolids rules, and the operator certification rules became effective on March 16, 2022. These changes are described in more detail below.

Water Supply Rule Changes (Chapters 9, 40, 43, 49): Several changes were made to cleanup and modify the water supply rules. The updated versions of the water supply rules can be viewed using the following links: [Chapter 9](#) - [Chapter 40](#) - [Chapter 43](#) - [Chapter 49](#) The changes are summarized below.

- Chapter 9 - The change to Chapter 9 aligned the rules with 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2475, which amended Iowa Code section 455B.183(2) to allow local public works departments to retain a professional engineer in lieu of directly employing an engineer. The department has been enforcing the law since its passage.
- Chapter 43, water mains - The changes to the water main separation distance rules in Chapter 43 eased certain aspects of the requirements and captured siting and construction alternatives developed from variances directly into the rules. Specifically, the changes put more emphasis on water main construction than on distance requirements and distinguish between sanitary and storm sewers.
- Chapters 40, 43, and 49, separation distances - Changes were made to clarify the well separation distances. Sources of contamination are now named consistently across the rules, and the separation distances are more uniform.

Wastewater Cleanup Rule Changes (Chapters 60-64): The Chapters included in the wastewater cleanup rule were 60, 62, 63, and 64. The updated wastewater rules can be viewed on the [NPDES Rules](#) webpage. The changes are summarized below.

- Chapter 60 - add and update definitions, remove old forms, and add language on electronic form submittal.

- Chapter 62 - update date reference for Federal effluent and pretreatment standards in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and add a reference to new federal dental effluent limitation guidelines.
- Chapter 63 - add CFR reference for analytical testing methods; clarify alternative test procedure and method modification requirements; update the rule-referenced Supporting Document for Permit Monitoring Frequency Determination; update WET testing guidelines; add electronic reporting language; rescind land application monitoring table; rescind table for preservation techniques, containers and holding times and replace it with a reference to the table in the CFR, and move language on monitoring well sampling procedures.
- Chapter 64 - simplify and clarify general permit language; modify language the operation permit period; update public notice and public hearing language; update and revise disadvantaged community eligibility requirements; add specific fee amounts from Iowa Code 455B.197; and add new language on the Nutrient Reduction Exchange (NRE).

Sludge Rule Changes (Chapter 67): The updates to the sludge/biosolids rules cleaned up and modified the rules for readability and to align with governing federal law. Use this link to view the updated [Chapter 67](#) rules.

Operator Certification Rule Changes (Chapter 81): The changes to Chapter 81 added a new wastewater classification grade that will benefit very small communities and simplified and refined the rules by clarifying definitions, better specifying certain operator requirements, and removing references to an obsolete classification grade. Use this link to view the updated [Chapter 81](#) rules.

FY 2022 Intended Use Plan Q4 Updates Approved

The Iowa Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) approved the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Intended Use Plans (IUP) fourth quarter update for fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022). The Commission took the action on March 15, 2022 during their meeting.

[Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#)

[Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#)

For more information, please contact Theresa Enright, SRF Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 515-725-0498 or theresa.enright@dnr.iowa.gov.

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.