

FLATHEAD CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OWNER-INSTALLED SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM TESTING POLICY

Background

The Flathead City-County Board of Health (Board) establishes this policy that will require owners desiring to install their own sewage treatment system to demonstrate competency with the Flathead County Regulation for Sewage Treatment Systems (Regulations) and the Design-Construction Standards.

Title 50-2-116 - Powers and duties of Local Boards allows the Board to "adopt necessary regulations and fees for the control and disposal of sewage from private and public buildings not currently connected to any municipal system (fees shall be deposited with the County Treasurer)". Based upon these powers, The Board has established the "Flathead County Regulations for Onsite Sewage Treatment Systems" and the accompanying "Design and Construction Standards".

The Department has informed the Board of challenges associated with owner-installed sewage treatment systems. The consensus of the Board is that sewage treatment systems should not be installed by property owners unless they demonstrate competency with the Regulation and Construction Standards through a testing process.

Policy

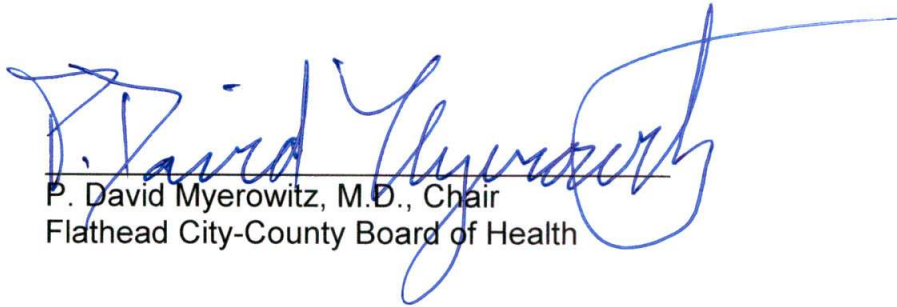
It is the intent of the Board to require that property owners who desire to install their own sewage treatment system be tested to demonstrate that they understand the regulatory and construction requirements associated with the construction/installation of a sewage treatment system. A property owner who takes and passes the owner-installer test and pays the fee is only granted the right to install sewage treatment systems on their own property.

Procedure

Prior to the issuance of a permit to install a sewage treatment system, the property owner shall be required to provide the Department the name of the firm who will be installing the system. If the owner states that he/she will be installing their own system then they will be required to pay an administration fee, take and pass a test. Passing the test will demonstrate their competency with regulatory requirements and construction standards necessary to successfully install a permitted sewage treatment system.

This policy is effective immediately upon Board of Health action and Chairperson's signature.

Adopted by the Flathead City-County Board of Health on November 10, 2016.



P. David Myerowitz, M.D., Chair
Flathead City-County Board of Health