

This pamphlet is intended to assist Dingman Township residents in determining what may be done after their sewage permit has expired. It must be noted that previous issuance of a sewage permit in no way guarantees that permits may be issued in the future. Dingman Township property owners may request a hard copy of this pamphlet by calling the Dingman Township Sewage Department.

My Sewage Disposal System Permit Expired Now What Do I Do?

Information about using past testing and expired permits



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION**
- 2. CAN A SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT BE EXTENDED?**
- 3. CAN A SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT BE RENEWED?**
- 4. MAY I USE PAST TESTING TO GET A NEW SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT?**
- 5. APPLYING FOR A SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT USING PREVIOUS TESTING**
- 6. THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE APPLYING FOR A SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM PERMIT ON AN OLD TEST SITE**

CHRIS WOOD
SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 – 10:30 AM MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
570 – 296 – 9260

1. Introduction

This document is intended to assist property owners in examining their options regarding the possibility of renewing or extending a sewage disposal permit and the use of past sewage testing toward obtaining a new permit. The information is general in nature and is not intended to cover every circumstance. When the information in this document conflicts with the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, the Sewage Facilities Act regulations, the Dingman Township Sewage Facilities Ordinance, or the determination of the Sewage Enforcement Officer, the Act, Regulations, Ordinance, or Sewage Enforcement Officer's determination shall prevail over this document.

2. Can a Sewage Permit be Extended?

The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act and the Dingman Township Sewage Facilities Ordinance are very clear. The sewage permit expires on the third anniversary of the date of permit issuance. For example, if the permit was issued January 1, 2001, the permit would expire January 1, 2004. There is only one exception. If, prior to the permit expiration date, the property owner constructs both the sewage disposal system to the point where the absorption area has been approved for coverage --- AND --- the structure's foundation has been completed, the permit may be extended until completion of the project.

3. Can a Sewage Permit be Renewed?

The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act has no provisions allowing for sewage permits to be renewed. Once a sewage permit expires, a new permit meeting all the current regulations must be obtained. If the property cannot meet the current regulations in effect at the time of permit application, no permit will be issued.

4. May I use Past Testing to obtain a new Sewage Permit?

At the Sewage Enforcement Officer's discretion, some or all of the past testing may be used to apply for a new sewage permit. In making the determination, the following standards are usually applied:

- The current Sewage Enforcement Officer must have been involved in the performing or reviewing of the past testing.
- The testing must have been performed in a matter consistent with the current regulations.
- The tested site must not have been disturbed.

- The absorption area site must not violate any of the mandatory isolations. (e.g. a water well may not have been drilled within 100 feet of the site.)
- The test area must be verifiable or documented by a previously issued permit.

5. Applying for a Sewage Disposal System Permit using Previous Testing

In order to apply for a sewage permit based on past test results, you must submit the results to a sewage system designer. The sewage system designer will pre-screen the site. If the designer believes that the results could be used, a sewage design will be prepared. The property owner must then submit the following to the Sewage Enforcement Officer:

- A completed and signed sewage permit application.
- A check for the municipal fee. The check should be made payable to “Dingman Township”.
- Three (3) copies of the sewage system design.
- Three (3) copies of the previous test results.
- A copy of the Dingman Township designer affidavit, signed and notarized by the sewage designer.
- (If the property is under one acre in size) a survey map of the property with the sewage system site plan drawn on the map by the surveyor.

Upon receiving the above, the Sewage Enforcement Officer will confirm the test results and review the plans. If the Sewage Enforcement Officer concurs, a permit will be issued.

Note: Dingman Township cannot recommend sewage system designers or surveyors. For the names of sewage design firms and registered surveyors that work in Dingman Township, call the Pike County Chamber of Commerce at (570) 296-8700 or the Pike County Builder’s Association at (570) 296-9200.

6. Things to Consider before Applying for a Sewage Disposal System Permit on an Old Test Site

Before applying for a new permit to construct a sewage disposal system on an old test site, you should consider the following:

- Are you satisfied with the sewage disposal system site? If not, look for another site on the property. If your choice location passes the testing, obtain a permit for that site. If not, you can go back to the original location.
- If your old permit was to construct an elevated sandmound, you should consider one of the new sewage disposal system types. Many of the new systems can be placed on the same site as a sandmound but function better and are much less obtrusive.
- If your old sewage disposal system was sited in the front yard because the rear of the property failed the sewage testing, you may want to consider retesting the rear of the property. There are new sewage system types available that can often be placed on soils that failed for an elevated sandmound.

NOTICE: Act 46 of 2010 has a provision that may extend the life of some sewage permits beyond the 3 year limit found in the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act. If your permit is about to expire, contact the SEO to determine if it has been extended by Act 46.

Chris Wood
Sewage Enforcement Officer
Office Hours: 9:00 – 10:30 AM Monday through Friday
570 – 296 – 9260