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## **TECHNICAL BULLETIN NUMBER S1-04 Amended**

TO: Local Public Health Agencies and other local Onsite Sewage Agencies  
Environmental Public Health Specialist V's

FROM: Scott A. Clardy, Administrator  
Section for Environmental Public Health

SUBJECT: Onsite Sewage System Installers Registration Required

DATE: February 14, 2005

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During the 2004 legislative session, House Bill 1433 was passed. It was signed into law by the Governor and became effective on August 28, 2004. A change in 701.031 requires any person installing on-site sewage disposal systems to be registered to do so by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). The following discussion reflects the Department's interpretation of that requirement and should clarify who must be registered by DHSS as onsite sewage system installers.

Persons installing or repairing onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) in Missouri must be registered even to construct a system on properties that are exempt from permitting. It is appropriate for cities or counties that require installer registration under local ordinance to continue their registration program. The construction permit process is not changed; the same onsite sewage authority in the city or county will continue to issue system construction permits.

**DHSS recommends all persons working in the onsite industry should have training;** however, the guidance below will be used to determine who must be state registered:

- Any individual who contracts with a property owner to install an onsite system or represents themselves as an installer to the property owner must be registered by DHSS. This will include the person listed as the installer on a construction permit application. This person will also be responsible for the system design (unless the approved design was done by a professional engineer). The registered individual is responsible for compliance with state and local construction standards and permit requirements.
- At least one DHSS registered individual must be on site installing and/or directly supervising the OWTS installation. The registered installer will be responsible for system layout and must be on site during the pre-construction site visit by the administrative authority. This person will be responsible for all work including altering,

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extending, repairing or constructing of an OWTS, (includes excavating and earthmoving work) performed by non-registered individuals. The registered installer must be on site during final inspection by the administrative authority.

In some situations, one registered installer will do all of the above. In other situations, two or more individuals associated with an onsite system installation will need to be registered.

Based on Missouri Onsite Sewage Laws, homeowners do not need to be state registered to install their own system. Any other person working on that system and fitting one of the categories above must be registered.