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## October 2012 Onsite Wastewater Unit Newsletter

### New Inspection Program

In late 2011, the Nebraska Onsite Waste Water Association (NOWWA) approached NDEQ with a request to implement an inspection program to promote compliance with the Title 124 requirements for the design and installation of onsite wastewater treatment systems. In early 2012, the Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Advisory Committee (OWAC) voted to support the concept of evaluating construction inspections.

Beginning October 2012, the Department will initiate an expanded inspection program. The compliance assurance inspections will focus on records Installers are required to maintain for onsite system installations that have been registered with NDEQ. These include: the system registration form submitted to NDEQ; the scaled drawing of the onsite system depicting the required system design/details; and soil percolation test data and results (see Title 124 - Ch. 4, 001).

The inspections will be based on a sample of registrations received. Follow-up inspections on selected systems may occur depending on the results of the initial inspection. On average, about 1,500 systems a year have been registered with NDEQ over the last five years. NDEQ plans to conduct approximately 60 inspections during Phase 1 of the pilot program. The inspections will be announced. If selected, you will be contacted prior to the inspection to schedule a convenient date and time to review your records.

During Phase 2 (January 2013 through March 2013), the Department will evaluate the inspection findings and make adjustments to the program, as needed. Any changes to the program will be carried out beginning April 2013. The Department will keep you apprised of our progress as we undertake this new effort. Your cooperation and assistance is appreciated.

### Onsite Wastewater Program Webpage Updated and New Look

The Onsite Program webpage has been updated. Forms, guidance documents and related information have been created/revised (nearly 60 documents in all) to reflect the recent changes to Title 124. We appreciate your patience as the webpage has been "under construction" the past few weeks. Let us know if you need printed copies of any materials, or go to the NDEQ website (see above) or use the webpage URL - <http://deq.ne.gov/WasteWat.nsf/Pages/Onsite>. Recently, you should have received copies of the new registration forms and instructions. **Use of the new forms was required effective August 11, 2012. Please recycle the old forms.**

### New Continuing Education Programs Approved

The Department recently approved University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL) Extension Title 124 (6 hours) and Mound System (6 hours) continuing education programs. The programs will be held at the following locations/dates

Title 124	Mound Systems
North Platte – October 29	North Platte – October 30
Grand Island – November 1	Grand Island – November 2
ARDC near Mead – November 26	ARDC near Mead – November 27
Norfolk – December 6	Norfolk – December 7

UNL Extension will be mailing information soon with registration and more specific location information. If you do not receive the UNL mailing by the middle of October, please contact UNL Extension at (402) 472-9390.

**IMPORTANT PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**84-30-29**

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**NDEQ Onsite Unit**