

4.17 Pit Privy

Revision: March 20, 2015

Installer registration permit: Property owner or standard and basic

Licensed professional engineer required: No

4.17.1 Description

A pit privy is a building that contains a toilet facility located over an excavation in natural soil for the disposal of blackwaste.

4.17.2 Approval Conditions

1. Surface water will be excluded.
2. Pit privies should not be located in floodways.
3. Effective soil depths (IDAPA 58.01.03.008.02.c) and separation distances (IDAPA 58.01.03.008.02.d) shall be met from the pit excavation with the following exceptions:
 - a. Clay soils of all types are acceptable.
 - b. Impermeable layer restrictions are waived.
4. Structures on the property served by water under pressure shall install a subsurface sewage disposal system.
5. The pit shall be abandoned when the blackwaste comes within 16 inches of the ground surface.
6. The pit privy installation permit shall contain a statement that requires the pit privy to be abandoned upon the installation of a subsurface sewage disposal system.

4.17.3 Pit Construction Requirements

1. Area where the privy is placed must be
 - a. Firm and level for at least 12 inches from the sides of the building.
 - b. Shall be at least 12 inches above the highest ground elevation as measured 18 inches from the sides of the building.
 - c. Shall be graded at a maximum slope of 3:1 starting 18 inches from the sides of the building
2. Pit dimensions should be at least 3 feet wide on all sides and 4 feet deep but no deeper than 6 feet below original ground level.
3. Pit cribbing, when required, shall
 - a. Fit firmly.
 - b. Be in uniform contact with the earth walls on all sides.
 - c. Rise at least 6 inches above the original ground line and descend to the full depth of the pit.

4.17.4 Building Construction Requirements

1. The privy building shall be firmly anchored and rigidly constructed.