

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

To restore and maintain the quality of public waters and to protect the public health and general welfare of Idaho's residences and visitors, the Board of Environmental Quality has adopted Rules for Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems. Because of the dynamic and complex nature of small wastewater disposal systems governed by those rules, an on-going technical guidance document is necessary. A Technical Guidance Committee has been mandated by that rule to establish criteria for alternatives to standard drain field systems. This Technical Guidance Manual has been prepared to summarize that criteria and to provide the necessary guidance to Environmental Health Specialists, Professional Engineers, Installers and others needing information on the detailed design, construction, alteration, repair, operation and maintenance of standard individual and subsurface sewage systems, their components and their alternatives.

1.1 The Technical Guidance Committee

To assist in providing the latest information for this manual an Individual and Subsurface Sewage Disposal Committee has been established by the Board of Environmental Quality. The committee includes three District Health Department Environmental Health Specialists, a member of the State's Department of Environmental Quality, a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Idaho, and a licensed septic tank system installer. All sections of this Manual have been reviewed and approved by that Technical Committee prior to inclusion herein.

1.2 The Individual and Subsurface Sewage Disposal Coordinator

To assist in updating and maintaining this manual in a timely manner, to advise the Committee on the latest state-of-the-art in on-site and subsurface disposal methodology, new products and the law and to provide approvals, the Department of Environmental Quality provides a staff position, the Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Coordinator, to accommodate those needs. The Coordinator will also assist in continued education of those involved in system design, approval, installation, operation and maintenance.

1.3 Disclaimer

The inclusion of new alternative system technology in this manual does not imply that such technology will be approved for use. The manual is provided solely for guidance should a particular alternative's implementation is desired.

Listing of products does not constitute endorsement. Products not listed may be approved by the Director if, after their review, they are found to meet the regulatory intent of the Rules for Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal.

This page left blank for correct double-sided printing.