

the end of the drainfield. Subsurface sewage disposal system permits do not include approval for installation of any plumbing preceding the septic tank or electrical components of a subsurface sewage disposal system. Requirements for these components are discussed in the following sections.

4.1.2.1 Plumbing Permits and Inspections

Any wastewater plumbing preceding a septic tank is under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Division of Building Safety Plumbing Program. All requirements related to this section of wastewater plumbing are governed by the Idaho State Plumbing Code. A permit for the installation of this plumbing and any necessary inspections of this plumbing must be obtained through the Idaho Division of Building Safety Plumbing Program. Health districts only have jurisdiction, including permitting and inspection authority, over the subsurface sewage disposal system. Health districts are not responsible for determining that any permit has been obtained for plumbing preceding the septic tank or that the plumbing preceding the septic tank is in compliance with the Idaho State Plumbing Code. A subsurface sewage disposal installer's registration permit issued under IDAPA 58.01.03.006 is not a substitute for a plumbing contractor license.

4.1.2.2 Electrical Permits and Inspections

Some alternative subsurface sewage disposal systems contain components that require an electrical connection. All electrical connections are under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Division of Building Safety Electrical Program. A permit for the electrical work necessary to connect these components to an electrical supply and any necessary inspections of the electrical work must be obtained through the Idaho Division of Building Safety Electrical Program. Health districts are not responsible for determining that any permit has been obtained for electrical work related to a subsurface sewage disposal system or that the electrical work is in compliance with the National Electrical Code. A subsurface sewage disposal installer's registration permit issued under IDAPA 58.01.03.006 is not a substitute for an electrical contractor license. Permitted subsurface sewage disposal system installers that do not hold a current electrical contractor license should not perform any electrical work related to a subsurface sewage disposal system. *It is highly recommended that health districts verify that a proper electrical inspection has been performed by the Idaho Division of Building Safety Electrical Program on any subsurface sewage disposal system component requiring electrical connection prior to coming into contact with the component, or any liquid that may be in contact with that component.*

4.1.3 Multiple Alternative Systems Combined into One System Design

An alternative system is any system that DEQ has issued design guidelines for (IDAPA 58.01.03.003.02), which are contained within section 4 of this manual. Alternatively, a standard system is any system that DEQ's Board of Environmental Quality has recognized through the adoption of design and construction regulations in IDAPA 58.01.03. Standard systems include a septic tank and aggregate-filled drainfield or absorption bed. Any modification of a standard system design as described in IDAPA 58.01.03.008 is considered an alternative system. Alternative systems may be classified as either a basic alternative system or a complex alternative system. All complex alternative systems are listed in section 1.5. Any system not considered a standard system or listed as a complex alternative system in section 1.5 is considered a basic alternative system.

Alternative systems are allowed to be used to address difficult sites that are not capable of supporting a standard system. Alternative systems provide property owners with more options to meet their subsurface sewage disposal needs. Alternative systems have solved some subsurface sewage disposal issues for difficult sites but are not a solution for all sites. Some sites are not suitable for subsurface sewage disposal due to limiting site conditions (e.g., shallow soils, high ground water, surface water, or steep slopes) or size. To reduce the number of sites that are not considered suitable for subsurface sewage disposal, the TGC and DEQ encourage using multiple alternative system designs in a single system's design. The following restrictions apply to combining multiple alternative systems into one system design:

1. The bottom of a drainfield may not be installed deeper than 48 inches below native grade.
2. Systems requiring the use of pressurization for any component may not substitute gravity flow for the pressurization of that component.
3. The most restrictive site slope requirements for any one alternative used in a system's design shall be adhered to.
4. The design guidance for all alternative systems used in a system's design shall be followed.
5. Only one allowance for reducing trench length, total disposal area, or an alternative hydraulic application rate shall be used in a system's design regardless of the number of alternative designs combined into one system that provide these types of reduction allowances.
6. Only one allowance for reducing separation distance to limiting layers or features of interest shall be used in a system's design regardless of the number of alternative designs combined into one system that provide these types of reduction allowances.

Table 4-1 provides a matrix of compatible alternative systems that may be combined and used for a single system's design. Any number of alternative system designs may be used in a single system's design as long as all of the alternatives are compatible with one another.

Table 4-1. Matrix of compatible alternative systems that may be combined and used for a single system’s design.

Alternative System	Capping Fill System (4.2)	Drip Distribution System (4.4)	Experimental System (4.6)	Extended Treatment Package System (4.7)	Extra Drain-rock Trench (4.8)	Gravel-less Trench System (4.10)	Pressure Distribution System (4.18)	Recirculating Gravel Filter (4.20)	Intermittent Sand Filter (4.21)	In-Trench Sand Filter (4.22)	Sand Mound (4.23)	Seepage Pit/Bed (4.24)	Steep Slope System (4.25)	Drainfield Remediation Components (4.28)
Capping Fill System (4.2)	S	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	N	N	N	A
Drip Distribution System (4.4)	A	S	A	A	A*	A*	A	A**	A**	A*	A*	N	A*	A
Experimental System (4.6)	A	A	S	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Extended Treatment Package System (4.7)	A	A	A	S	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Extra Drainrock Trench (4.8)	A	A*	A	A	S	N	A	A	A	N	N	N	A	A
Gravelless Trench System (4.10)	A	A*	A	A	N	S	A	A*	A*	A	A	N	A	A
Pressure Distribution System (4.18)	A	A	A	A	A	A	S	A	A	A	A	N	A	A
Recirculating Gravel Filter (4.20)	A	A**	A	A	A	A*	A	S	A	A	A	A	A	A
Intermittent Sand Filter (4.21)	A	A**	A	A	A	A*	A	A	S	A	A	A	A	A
In-Trench Sand Filter (4.22)	A	A*	A	A	N	A	A	A	A	S	N	N	A	A
Sand Mound (4.23)	N	A*	A	A	N	A	A	A	A	N	S	N	N	A
Seepage Pit/Bed (4.24)	N	N	A	A	N	N	N	A	A	N	N	S	N	A

Alternative System	Capping Fill System (4.2)	Drip Distribution System (4.4)	Experimental System (4.6)	Extended Treatment Package System (4.7)	Extra Drain-rock Trench (4.8)	Gravel-less Trench System (4.10)	Pressure Distribution System (4.18)	Recirculating Gravel Filter (4.20)	Intermittent Sand Filter (4.21)	In-Trench Sand Filter (4.22)	Sand Mound (4.23)	Seepage Pit/Bed (4.24)	Steep Slope System (4.25)	Drainfield Remediation Components (4.28)
Steep Slope System (4.25)	N	A*	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	N	N	S	A
Drainfield Remediation Components (4.28)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	S

A—Compatible alternative system types; N—Not compatible alternative system types; S—Same alternative system type; (*)—May be used as the distribution method within the drainfield; (**)—May be used as distribution method within the filter as well as the drainfield.