

Two New Exemptions Change Who Is Required To Have Licensed Operators

A new definition for “public wastewater system” allows TWO additional types of wastewater systems to be exempted from the requirement to have licensed operators. The two different types of public wastewater systems no longer required to have a licensed operator are as follows:

- A wastewater system under public or private ownership that generates, collects, or treats LESS THAN 2,500 gallons/day.
- A wastewater system with individual septic tanks and individual effluent pump stations (STEP) that discharge to a common gravity flow subsurface treatment and distribution system (when ownership of each septic tank and pumping station is by individual property owner and ownership of the common system is by a public or private entity).

Public wastewater systems are now defined as any treatment or collection system under either private or public ownership that generates, collects, or treats 2,500 gallons or more per day.

In addition to the two new exemptions, existing exemptions include a single residential wastewater system; a system consisting solely of a gravity flow, non-mechanical, septic tank and subsurface drainfield; an animal waste system; or an industrial wastewater system under private ownership.