

New Wastewater System Classification

On March 29, 2010 the Idaho State Legislature approved the DEQ pending Very Small Wastewater System Classification rule.

The Very Small Wastewater System Classification is defined as a public wastewater system that serves five hundred (500) connections or less and includes a collection system with a system size of six (6) points or less on the system classification rating form (Section 202) and is limited to only one (1) of the following wastewater treatment processes:

- a. Aerated lagoons;
- b. Non-aerated lagoon(s);
- c. Primary treatment; or
- d. Primary treatment discharging to a large soil absorption system (LSAS).

Wastewater Systems that fall under the new system classification will need to obtain a combined wastewater collection and treatment license through the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Licensure Update

The Idaho State Legislature also approved the Board of Drinking Water and Wastewater Professional's pending rules which allowed for the creation of two new licenses a Very Small Wastewater System license and a Class 1 Restricted license. In addition, the Legislature approved revisions to the Very Small Drinking Water licensure requirements.

As of March 29, 2010 the following licensure requirements shall be met by operators seeking a Class I Restricted license, a Very Small Wastewater license, or a Very Small Water System license.

Class 1 Restricted License

To qualify for a Class I Restricted water or wastewater license an operator must have a high school diploma or GED and obtain two hundred sixty (260) hours of acceptable work experience with the system in one (1) year and work a full operating year with the system and complete sixteen (16) hours of continuing education relevant to the license and pass the relevant Class I examination. Upon obtaining one thousand six hundred (1,600) hours of supervised operating experience for each license, the operator shall be eligible to apply for an unrestricted Class I license. There is no limit on the amount of time needed to obtain the necessary experience to qualify for the unrestricted license. A restricted license is limited to a specific system.

Very Small Wastewater System

To qualify for a Very Small Wastewater System license, an operator must have a high school diploma or GED and fifty (50) hours of acceptable operator-in-training experience at a wastewater collection system and fifty (50) hours of acceptable operator-in-training experience at a wastewater treatment system and complete an approved six-hour pumps and motors course; and an approved six-hour lagoon operation and maintenance course; or an approved six-hour large soil absorption system course for a combined total of one hundred twelve (112) hours.

Very Small Water System

To qualify for a Very Small Water System license an operator must have a high school diploma or GED and eighty-eight (88) hours of acceptable operator-in-training experience at a water system and complete an approved six-hour water treatment or chlorination course and an approved six-hour water distribution course for a combined total of one hundred (100) hours.

For additional information on IBOL licensure requirements log on to <http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa24/0501.pdf>