Health Board Seeks Public Comment on Changes to Septic Regulations

The City-County Board of Health is accepting public comments on proposed changes to county rules that govern septic systems and wastewater treatment. The board will also hold a public hearing on the proposal in December.

The current version of the Lewis and Clark County Onsite Wastewater Treatment Regulations were approved by the board in 2016. Their purpose is to protect public health and control water pollution by ensuring that sewage is properly disposed of using appropriate treatment systems.

“The regulations include a requirement that we review them on a regular basis and revise them if necessary,” said Frank Preskar, environmental program manager at Lewis and Clark Public Health (LCPH). “Most of the changes we’re proposing this year could be categorized as simple cleanup and clarification.

“The most substantive change would be to allow homeowners to install ‘non-standard’ septic systems themselves, instead of having to hire a certified installer,” he added.

The proposed revisions are available on the Lewis and Clark Public Health (LCPH) website at www.LewisAndClarkHealth.org.

County residents can submit written comments by email to fpreskar@lccountymt.gov or by mail or in person to the Environmental Division of Lewis and Clark Public Health, 316 N. Park, Room 230, Helena MT 59623.

The public hearing will be Dec. 5 at 1 p.m. in Room 330 of the City-County Building, 316 N. Park.

For more information about the county’s onsite wastewater, or septic, programs, visit www.lccountymt.gov/health/environmental-health/septic-systems or call 406-447-8351.