

# **ALLEN COUNTY CODE TITLE 17 ONSITE WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

## **ARTICLE 1 ALLEN COUNTY ONSITE WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

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### **17-1-1 Chapter 1: Creation of The District**

There is hereby established an onsite waste water management district which shall be known as the Allen County Onsite Waste Water Management District (ACOWMD).

### **17-1-2 Chapter 2: Territory**

The territory included in the ACOWMD shall include all unincorporated territory of Allen County. Incorporated areas may opt into the ACOWMD by ordinance and approval of the District Board.

### **17-1-3 Chapter 3: Public Health Concerns**

The Commissioners find that onsite wastewater management systems (“systems”) which fail cause polluted water to be discharged into the local environment thereby jeopardizing the health of Allen County residents. Given the soil types of the region, said systems can only work effectively if they are properly installed and maintained. The only way to accomplish same and thereby minimize the discharge and assist local homeowners is to establish a district.

### **17-1-4 Chapter 4: Purpose**

The ACOWMD is established for the purpose of improving the overall operation and functioning of systems as defined in I.C. 36-11-1 et sec. to improve and sustain the water quality in Allen County and improve the health and welfare of its residents. To do so the district shall perform the following functions:

- a) Inventory of systems.
- b) Inspection of systems including requiring maintenance steps as required for said systems.
- c) Monitoring the:
  - 1) Performance; and
  - 2) Maintenance of systems.
- d) Establishing:

- 1) Standards for installation and inspection of systems that are no less stringent than standards established by the Indiana State Department of Health; and
- 2) Procedures for enforcement of the standards.
- e) Seeking grants for:
  - 1) system maintenance; and
  - 2) any other activities described in this article.
- f) Establishing rates and charges for the operation of the district.
- g) Establishing policies and procedures for the use of grants and other revenue of the district for installation, maintenance, and other activities of the district relating to systems in the district.
- h) Seeking solutions for disposal of sewage from systems.
- i) Education and training of system service providers and system owners.
- j) Coordination of activities of the district with activities of:
  - 1) Local Department of Health;
  - 2) The Department of Natural Resources; and
  - 3) The Indiana State Department of Health; and
  - 4) The Indiana Department of Environmental Management; and
  - 5) Other related agencies as deemed applicable.

## **17-1-5 Chapter 5: Estimated Costs**

It is anticipated that the operating costs of the district will be raised through the registration process for all repaired or newly installed onsite wastewater systems. The process will require persons having a system to provide proof of a valid maintenance operating contract appropriate to the installed system. All properties requiring entrance into the district will pay an initial registration fee. They will then be issued an operating permit for their system and maintenance inspections will occur every 1-3 years depending on system type. The operating permit must be renewed every 1-3 years depending on system type which will require the payment of the district renewal fee. It is estimated that the average cost to the home owner will be somewhere between \$50.00 and \$150.00 per year depending on the type of system installed.

## **17-1-6 Chapter 6: Powers**

The ACOWMD will have all powers granted by I.C. 36-11-5-1 et sec. to accomplish its goals.

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