



3A-1 General Information

A. Concept

Sanitary Sewer Systems are essential to the public health and welfare in areas of concentrated population and development. Every community produces water-borne wastes of domestic, commercial and industrial origin. The Sanitary Sewer performs the needed function of collecting these wastes and conveying them to points of approved discharge or disposal. The use of uniform and adequate sanitary sewer design criteria is essential for public safety and proper wastewater treatment, maintenance and control.

B. Conditions

1. **Design.** The design for sanitary facilities should be in conformance with the following:
 - a. Requirements and Standards of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.
 - b. "Recommended Standards for Sewage Works Great Lakes-Upper Mississippi River Board of State Sanitary Engineers." (Ten State Standards).
 - c. Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements.
 - d. Jurisdictions Plumbing Code.
 - e. In case of a conflict between the above design standards, the most restrictive requirement applies.
2. **Construction standards.** Construction standards should be the most recent revision of the Urban Standard Specifications for Public Improvements together with the latest addenda. All details, materials, and sewer appurtenances should conform to these standards.
3. **Project submittals.** A construction permit issued by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is required for the construction, installation or modification of any disposal system or part thereof or any extension or addition thereto. A permit to construct minor sewer extensions may be obtained from a local public works department when the Department's permitting authority has been delegated to the local public works department under section 455B.45 of the Code of Iowa.

DNR construction permit are normally not be required for the following sewers:

- a. Storm sewers that transport only surface water runoff.
- b. Any new disposal system or extension or addition to any existing disposal system that receives only domestic or sanitary sewage from a building, housing or occupied by fifteen persons or less.

- c. Replacement of previously approved construction where the replacement is done with the exact same methods, materials, capacities and design considerations. However, if there is any change, the proposed construction will require a construction permit.
- d. Sanitary sewer service connections, defined as any connection from a single property unit to an existing sanitary sewer.

Engineering services to obtain a construction permit and complete the approved construction should be performed in three stages:

- a. Engineering report or facilities plan (not required for minor sewer extensions).
- b. Preparation of construction plans, specifications and contractual documents.
- c. Construction inspection, administration, compliance and acceptance.

All reports, plans and specifications should be prepared in conformance with Chapter 114 of the Code of Iowa.

Engineering reports or facilities plans should be submitted to the Department at least 90 days prior to the date upon which action by the Department is desired, or in accordance with the Iowa Operation Permit or other schedules. The final plans and specifications should not be prepared until the engineering report has been approved. This enables the Department to review the concept and design basis, make appropriate comments, and indicate to the applicant the general acceptability of the proposal before additional expenses are incurred for developing final plans and specifications. After the engineering report has been approved, the final plans and specifications should be submitted in accordance with 400--24.2(455B) of the Iowa Administrative Code or in accordance with the Iowa Operation Permit or other schedules. These plans and specifications should be prepared in accordance with the approved engineering report or facilities plan. Any changes from the approved report must receive prior approval from the IDNR before incorporation into the plans and specifications.

An application for a permit to construct should follow the Department of Natural Resources Rules and Regulations.