



Saint Louis County

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Ted Troolin
Director

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release:

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Environmental Services Dept.
(218) 749-0647

County residents invited to comment on proposed changes to septic ordinance

St. Louis County is considering changes to its rules regarding septic systems. The County Planning Commission has initiated a 60-day review period, which runs through December 9, 2013, for residents to review and offer feedback on what's officially known as Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance 61.

The original ordinance on this subject was adopted in August 2000, and was last updated in 2008. In recent years, county staff has spent considerable time working with state-licensed septic designers, inspectors, installers and maintainers, and other interested parties to update the ordinance to reflect changes in state law while incorporating local considerations.

Among the proposed updates, the new ordinance removes provisions better addressed in the County's zoning and subdivision ordinances, maintains less restrictive compliance criteria when applicable, broadens the use of holding tanks, modifies point of sale program requirements, and incorporates local system design considerations.

The draft proposal is available for viewing online or to download at stlouiscountymn.gov/ordinance61. Residents also may request a printed copy by calling the St. Louis County Environmental Services Department toll free at (800) 450-9278.

Comments may be submitted by email to Mark St. Lawrence at stlawrencem@stlouiscountymn.gov, or by mail to:

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department
307 First Street South
Northland Office Center, Suite 115,
Virginia, MN 55792.

The Planning Commission will consider all public comments and public testimony at a hearing at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013 in the Liz Prebich Conference Room in the Northland Office Center.

Following adoption by the Planning Commission, the ordinance goes to the County Board for final approval. State law requires counties to adopt a revised ordinance by February 2014.

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