

#613 PLANNING BASICS

Sewage Facilities Planning

1



CHAPTER OBJECTIVES:

After completing this chapter, you will be able to . . .

- Explain the purpose and importance of sewage facilities planning.
- List the parties who are involved in the planning process.
- Explain how onlot sewage systems are viewed now compared to how they were viewed prior to the 1990s.
- Understand the municipality's responsibility to develop and maintain an up-to-date sewage facilities official plan.



TEACHING METHOD:

- Self-study



ESTIMATED TIME:

- 30 minutes



MATERIALS / RESOURCES:

- Computer with Internet access—www.seotraining.org
- Chapter Materials—All chapter materials are available at www.seotraining.org, Cont. Ed. Course Material, Courses, #613, Chapter 1.
 - ✓ Chapter Study Materials
 - Self-study guide (viewed on the Internet)
 - Workbook (print book)
 - Answer key (viewed on the Internet)
 - ✓ Chapter Resources
 - Sewage Facilities Act (Act 537 at www.library.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-70481/3800-BK-DEP1416.pdf)
 - Title 25 regulations (book or at www.pacode.com/secure/data/025/025toc.html)



CHECKLISTS

The checklists below are to help you organize your training activities. All the listed activities should be completed prior to moving to the next chapter.



WORKBOOK ACTIVITY:

_____ 1-1: Act 537 Declaration of Policy

ANSWER KEY:

The workbook activity answers can be found at www.seotraining.org, Cont. Ed. Course Material, Courses, #613, Chapter 1, Chapter Study Materials, Answer Key.



TESTING:

(www.seotraining.org, Cont. Ed. Material, Courses, #613, Course Quiz)

When you complete all the chapters, you may take the online course quiz. To successfully complete the self-study portion of Course #613, you must complete the course quiz. There is no minimum passing score. The score will be for your reference to measure your knowledge of the content.

NAVIGATING THE COURSE MATERIAL:

Don't close out of the PDF documents when you want to go get another file. Instead, use the back arrow in the navigation bar at the top of the screen. It is also helpful to open two separate windows: one with the self-study guide and one with the resources. This way you won't have to close the self-study guide to access the resources.



Go to the www.seotraining.org, Cont. Ed. Material, Courses, #613 Chapter 1, Chapter Study Materials, **Self-Study Guide**. The guide will tell you when you need to return to this workbook to complete exercises or activities.



EXERCISE I-1: Act 537 Declaration of Policy



Go to the www.seotraining.org, Cont. Ed. Material, Courses, #613, Chapter 1, Resources, to access a link to **Act 537**.

Turn to Section 3 of Act 537. Use this section of the act to find and fill in the missing words below.

Act 537, Section 3, states . . .

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through this act:

- (1) To protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens through the development and _____ of _____ for the sanitary disposal of sewage waste.
- (2) To promote intermunicipal cooperation in the implementation and _____ of such plans by _____ government.
- (3) To _____ and eliminate _____ of waters of the Commonwealth by coordinating planning for the sanitary disposal of sewage wastes with a comprehensive program of water quality management.
- (4) To provide for the issuance of permits for onlot sewage disposal systems by local government in accordance with _____ and to encourage intermunicipal cooperation to this end.
- (5) To provide for and insure a high degree of _____ within local government in the administration of this act.
- (6) To encourage the use of the _____ available _____ for on-site sewage disposal systems.
- (7) To insure the _____ of _____ on matters of sewage disposal as they may relate to this act and the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

Now, circle the numbers of the provisions above that you think would apply in the planning stage.



To view the answers for the exercise in this workbook go to www.seotraining.org, Cont. Ed. Course Material, Courses, #613, **Chapter I**, Chapter Study Materials, **Answer Key**.



Return to the **Chapter I Self-Study Guide**.



KEY POINTS

- In 1966, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed Act 537 (the Sewage Facilities Act) that requires all municipalities to develop an official plan to address current and future sewage disposal needs.
- Even though municipalities are ultimately responsible for administering the Act 537 sewage facilities program, local agency SEOs play an important role in the planning process.
- The Department of Environmental Protection provides oversight of Act 537 and offers technical and financial assistance to municipalities.
- The municipality, the local agency SEO, and DEP are involved in the planning process.
- The process of considering adequate sewage treatment in the conceptual stages of land development is called sewage facilities planning.
- The purpose of sewage facilities planning is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.
- Onlot sewage disposal is now viewed as part of the municipality's permanent infrastructure.