

Excerpt of the Aitkin County Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance
Adopted July 8, 2025

6.7 Differences in Standards

- 6.71** Alternative Local Standards as per Section 6.11 of this Ordinance.
- 6.72** All SSTS shall be sized on a Type I (Classification I) Dwelling as indicated in 2006 MN Rules Chapter 7080.0125 Table I. On lots created prior to January 21, 1992 within shoreland areas and January 10, 1995 outside the shoreland area, if the lot area does not permit for a Type I SSTS, a Type II or III SSTS may be allowed with conditions.
- 6.73** Mound septic systems with percolation rates greater than thirty (30) mpi shall not be located on slopes in excess of twelve (12)%.
- 6.74** The absorption width of mounds shall be calculated using dike (Berm) slope multiplier ratios of 3:1 or flatter. If the lot area or setback distances don't allow for the use of these multipliers, the Department may consider the use of steeper dike slopes.
- 6.75** A maximum of two ten-foot wide beds may be installed side by side in a single mound if the original soil percolation rate is between five (5) and sixty (60) mpi to a depth of at least twenty four (24) inches below the sand layer. The beds must be separated by at least four (4) feet of clean sand. The absorption area under the sand layer must equal or exceed that of a similar sized mound with one rockbed. It is preferred that the separation between the rockbeds is the same as a downslope dike width.
- 6.76** The entire construction of a mound must take place and continue through the entire construction process when the upper twelve (12) inches of soil has a moisture content of less than the plastic limit. If a mound gets rained on prior to covering, construction of the mound shall not continue until the upper twelve (12) inches of soil under the absorption area and around the perimeter of the sand base has a moisture content less than the plastic limit.
- 6.77** Setback distances from mound septic systems to buildings, property lines, wells, road right-of-ways, ordinary high water level, etc., will be taken from the outer limits of the absorption area.
- 6.78** All SSTS in sandy soils, shall be sized on a soil sizing factor of 1.27 sq.ft./gallon/day or .79 gal/day/sqft unless the sandy soil meets the special requirements in 2006 MN Rules Chapter 7080.0170, Subp. 2(C), Table V - Fine Sand, which would require a soil sizing factor of 1.67 sq.ft./gallon/day or .6 gal/day/sqft.
- 6.79** Each drainfield line must be connected separately to drop boxes and distribution boxes and must not be subdivided.
- 6.791** For pressure distribution systems using perforated laterals, it is recommended the square foot per perforation be 6-10 as in item #6 of Appendix B.