

**CEHA SUBSURFACE CODE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**FEBRUARY 21, 2008 MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM. The nineteen in attendance were; Amanda Crovo, David Taylor, Lynette Swanson, Warren Herzig, Rick Zulick, Sharon Antunes, Pete Dunn, Michael McCarthy, Aimee Eberly, Ryan McCammon, Jeff Polhemus, Steve Maskara, Fern Tremblay, John Laudano, John Sievec, Bill Milardo, Carol Lord, Don Mitchell and Andrew England.

There were no minutes distributed to approve.

**New Business** (*Bumped up in the agenda*)

Andrew England from Eljen Corporation came to make a presentation on the new Mantis products listed in the Technical Standards. Andrew noted that the Eljen "B" units produced in the 1980's are still available today. Over time they had encountered a few problems from homeowner abuse or poorly read soils. Also, the manufacturer of the In-drain product used the wrong filter fabric in some runs. Now they produce them for themselves in East Hartford. Approximately 30,000 systems a year are installed with most being in Scandinavia, Arizona and Michigan. Connecticut's code is surface area based using a 2X multiplier for open bottom. The Mantis product can be installed with an internal distribution pipe (6" flow line) or one on top (12" flow line). Most in Connecticut use the top pipe on the 430-10 models, to receive credit for 11.0 SF/LF. The Mantis product comes in 5' lengths, with internal pipe openings at 12, 5, & 7 o'clock. The units connect end to end with provided couplings. The products use ASTM C-33 sand. One would hand push the sand under the internal pipe and tamp into the unit where needed with a 2" x 4". The unit wants airflow for oxygen transfer. The plastic inside allows for airflow and storage. The void space in the cusped units will store 45 gallons per unit. Dosing should supply 7 gal/module/dose from the top pipe. Time dosing is good but not critical. Cost to use time dosing could be an issue for only fractional improvement. The top pipe has one hole every 5' at 6 o'clock. The product is 36" wide but lies in a 48" wide trench so there will be 6" of sand on each side, and 6" of sand is placed under the units. Mr. England cautioned not to over compact material like the Haynes' manufactured fill. They typically run a compactor up and back over each row. The product is going into the test center on Cape Cod at the Otis base in the spring. The 30" Mantis is only being sold in Connecticut, but the smaller 24" versions are in two other states where In-drains are sold. Drop boxes and dial-a-flow adjust top pipe elevations. A 2" pipe is used for the "D" box to the pump chamber. Price is \$85 +tax directly to a contractor. They will not sell to homeowners. Phone # is 860-444-1359.

**Old Business**

- Carol recapped the CEHA Executive Board meeting. There was some discussion of upcoming soils training and electronic tracking systems.
- It was decided that Jeff Polhemus, Aimee Eberly, Don Mitchell, Carol Lord, Mary Jane Engle and Rick Zulick will work the soils training representing CEHA.

### **New Business (continued)**

- We want to keep the new septic products coming before us.
- Amanda Crovo will put proprietary manuals on the website as they are approved.
- State Code Advisory Committee – They are contemplating a regulation change in 18-24 months (not the Technical Standards). Currently there is no provision to revoke septic certifications. It may also become mandatory to take soil training.
- The possibility of creating another pump seminar was presented. Jeff Polhemus mentioned STEP (septic tank effluent pump) systems vs. pump chambers. Discussions centered on venting issues (Carol), electrical issues like separate circuits for pumps and alarms (Don), pump sizing and friction loss, length and volumes of pipes etc. Other issues discussed included inspection check-off lists, time dose cycles, and new products. A possible time considered was for fall or winter (possibly November). A half-day session was considered in possibly three locations was considered.
- Soils training will likely occur in June and October.
- Pump out ordinance updates. Carol's in Essex is close. Carol has proposed a 5-year phase in to eliminate metal septic tanks and cesspools. Guilford has fines with their ordinance (John Sievec). Aimee Eberly asked Carol for a copy of the Essex proposal.
- Carol discussed proposed legislation. HB 5073 to fund AT with \$407,000 looks like it may get \$50,000 for a part-time attorney. SB No.136 is a moratorium on AT > 5,000gpd, except schools and public property. There is also a proposal to stop flushing medications that end up in groundwater and surface waters.
- Jeff Polhemus proposed a language change in well exceptions. Bob Scully proposed a correction in statutes.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Mitchell, Co-chair CEHA Subsurface Code Advisory Committee