



The Septic Underground
Shedding light into the on-site septic systems



Basic Training in New Mexico

New Inspector training was a big hit! We asked for your comments and here they are, summarized of course. Who has time to read with so many inspections to do!

Here is what the new inspectors had to say:

What did you like most about the training?

- ⇒ Good handouts, there was a fair amount of audience interaction.
- ⇒ Handouts; onsite liquid waste inspection form with notes, LW Program Installation guide, scenarios presented pertaining to inspections
- ⇒ Inspection hand outs with definitions were useful for explanations (quick) on regs. Also specifics on different systems (ET Beds, etc.) Q&A sessions helpful.
- ⇒ Loved the installation guidance drawings very helpful
- ⇒ Appreciated the formulas provided for each system for new inspectors.
- ⇒ It was a lot of info but it did not make my ears bleed, very intuitive
- ⇒ I liked that the LW Specialists were present to share their knowledge.
- ⇒ Permit review in groups good learning process.
- ⇒ Very relevant and obviously it was specifically designed for NMED inspectors with limited on the job experience.
- ⇒ The ability of trainees to present work scenarios for open discussion with staff and audience was very helpful.
- ⇒ There was a lot of dialogue and everyone's questions were discussed thoroughly.

FIELD TRIP "GOING SEPTIC"



We visited Albuquerque Vault Company, Owner Mike Addy to get an underground view of how a septic tank is made. We want to extend thanks to both Gene Bassett and Mike Addy for scheduling this field trip and taking the time to guide us through this important process.



We viewed the form assembly, concrete slump testing, concrete mixing and the pouring process. Additionally like magic we also saw a finished tank being pulled from the mold; wow these guys are magicians! We also caught a rare glimpse of seepage pit rings; it's a jungle out here.



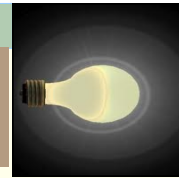
We were pleased to see so many come to the training and elated with the dialog and participation. The Liquid Waste Core Team (LWCT) is rolling up it's sleeves; we've got work to do. We are committed to providing training and support to all inspectors to better equip them in succeeding in the field. Your feedback is always appreciated.



Jim Vincent, Liquid Waste Program Manager

Liquid Waste Website Address: <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/fod/LiquidWaste/>

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Sheraton Albuquerque Uptown
2600 Louisiana NE

Upcoming Training Opportunities

- * NMEHA/POWRANM Fall Symposium: "Forward thinking in Environmental Health" Oct 27, 28, and 29.
- * NAWT refresher course Oct 27th * Liquid Waste , Food, Pools Tract Oct 28th * www.nmeha.org

AND THE SURVEY SAYS

Strongly Agree	Agree	Statements	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
6	7	1. The objectives of the training were clearly defined.			
10	3	2. The topics covered were relevant to me.			
7	5	3. The content was organized and easy to follow.	1		
10	3	4. The handouts that were distributed were helpful.			
9	4	5. This training experience will be useful to me in my work.			
10	3	6. The trainer was knowledgeable about the training topics.			
8	5	7. The trainer was well prepared.			
9	4	8. The presenter was effective in engaging the audience.			
4	9	9. The time allotted for the training was sufficient.			
2	9	10. The meeting room and facilities were adequate and comfortable.	2		
4	3	11. The exam was fair and it adequately measured the required knowledge.			1

EPA Initiative look for the link



What aspects of the training could be improved?

- * Provide coffee.
- * Instead of ET and ATS permit examples review more pipe and gravel, EZ-flow and chamber would be more helpful
- * Would have been interested in more complaint investigation discussion as originally stated in itinerary.
- * More visual, pictures of examples of inspections, soils, also more soil sample or having a soil scientist and a licensed plumber for questions.
- * Training means a lot of sitting maybe a couple more hands on sections like the soil comparisons.
- * Perform a real inspection preferably one that will be problematic.
- * Answers to all of the handwritten questions not addressed.
- * Present photos of types of installations for the majority of WTAC approved products.
- * Send handouts in electronic form as well.
- * Bring in the experienced people, you put us in the position of doing what we know is proper but they disagree and want it done another way, our jobs are on the line if we don't do what we are told.
- * Primary confusions regarding registrations modifications not established prior to training . Deferring opinions on policy made things more confusing.
- * The side conversations were good but sometimes carried on to the point of detracting from the course and the point of the conversation unsure.

Welcome to SepticSmart
Homeowners, learn the ins and outs of your septic system.



"We call him AT&T...that's short for 'Always Talking & Talking!'"

Jim Vincent, Liquid Waste Program Manager

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TRAINING IS A CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS