

Proposed OWTS Regulation Opt-ins Summary for 2026 Adoption

Opt-ins Arapahoe County Public Health Proposes to Continue:

- License OWTS Contractors/Installers and Cleaners/Pumpers
- Require industry certification for Systems Maintenance Providers and Transfer of Title Inspectors (no license program)
- Allow Variances with procedure in regulations
- Wastewater flows are sized with two (2) people per bedroom and greater than 4 bedrooms are designed with one (1) person per bedroom
- Higher Level Treatment Oversight Program
- Transfer of Title Inspections Required
- Use Permit Program
- Allow new and existing vaults with restrictions (i.e. RV pump outs and community parks)



Opt-ins Arapahoe County Public Health Proposes to Adopt in 2026:

- Conditional systems contractor licensure
- Administratively allow a reduction to the 10-ft property line setback (previously Board of Health determination) with a 3-ft minimum
- May increase design flow number of bedrooms for unfinished areas and bunk houses during permitting
- May require joint soil pit evaluations and may require additional soil pit excavations
- Require effluent filters (Alarms for pressure distribution system filters)
- New Non-pressurized Drip Dispersal Systems (NDDS) fall under Oversight Program
- Prohibit pit privies and require abandonment of existing pit privies
- Prohibit slit trenches

For more information:

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/OWTS>

Arapahoe County Public Health Septic Website:

<https://www.arapahoeco.gov/septic>