




# pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BUREAU OF WATER STANDARDS & FACILITY REGULATION

MEMO

**TO:** ALL Sewage Enforcement Officers (SEO)

**FROM:** John R. Diehl, P.G.   
Chief, Act 537 Management  
Bureau of Water Standards & Facility Regulation

**DATE:** October 7, 2011

**RE:** Ultraviolet disinfection on shallow limiting zones  
Retraction of August 1, 2011 Memo

Effective immediately, the Department retracts the August 1, 2011 memorandum relative to the requirements of ultraviolet disinfection (UV) as a component of onlot septic systems on shallow limiting zones. This retraction applies to the Perc Rite systems manufactured by American Manufacturing and the GSF System manufactured by Eljen Corp., among others. A shallow limiting zone in the context of onlot sewage disposal is defined as less than 20 inches from the mineral surface. Therefore, systems classified as onlot alternate technologies may be sited on soils with a limiting zone of less than 20 inches without the requirement for UV disinfection.

For current onlot alternate technology siting requirements, please refer to individual classification listings either in the Alternate Systems Guidance document or in the Onlot Alternate Technology Listings section posted on DEP's website as they will note any disinfection requirements specific to each technology.

In the future, the Department may revisit siting and disinfection requirements for sewage disposal on shallow soil settings. However, until such time, please refer to the current classification listings.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter, please direct them to John Diehl at [Jdiehl@pa.gov](mailto:Jdiehl@pa.gov) or by telephone at 717-787-8184.