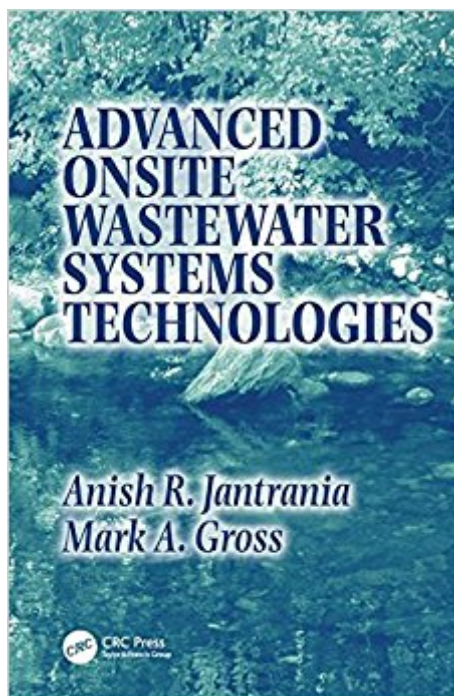




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Advanced Onsite Wastewater Systems Technologies



Synopsis

Drawing on the authors' combined experience of more than 30 years, *Advanced Onsite Wastewater Systems Technologies* explores use of these technologies on a wide-scale basis to solve the problems associated with conventional septic tank and drain field systems. The authors discuss a regulatory and management infrastructure for ensuring long-term, reliable applications of onsite systems for wastewater management. The book and its supporting web-site (www.advancedonsitesystems.com) are an information catalog for advanced onsite wastewater technologies. This combination offers tools that will help onsite wastewater professionals communicate effectively with each other and their clients, thus minimizing the confusion and misunderstandings often related to the use of advanced onsite systems. The authors provide an overview of advanced onsite systems technologies and compare them to conventional onsite systems and centralized wastewater systems. They present key concepts for decentralized wastewater solutions and information on advanced onsite wastewater treatment and effluent dispersal technologies currently available. The book delineates a management, regulatory, and planning framework for adopting the use of advanced onsite systems technologies as alternatives to conventional septic systems and centralized collection and treatment plants. It concludes with an exploration of the future of advanced onsite systems technologies and their uses. A toolbox for service professionals, regulators, and community planners, the book highlights objective methods to assess the performance of technologies and examples of real-world applications. The authors detail a solution-driven and performance-based regulatory framework for the use of advanced onsite systems as a true alternative to centralized collection and treatment plants and offer guidance on how to plan for future growth with such systems. They answer the age-old question of "what to do when the land doesn't perc and sewer isn't coming?"

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I work for a CA jurisdiction which has approved a wide variety and number of alternative septic systems. The challenges, particularly regarding onsite management AFTER installation, have been great. And the results--after wastewater quality testing of the final treated 'product'--have been mixed. Consulting sanitary engineers, septic installers, and environmental health specialists will want to have this title on the shelf. Whether you're formulating regs, diving into technical standards, requirements for aerobic treatment units, or creating policy and BMPs, this title will take you beyond the world of conventional septic system and into the 'stuff' of engineered decentralized sewage systems. For local sites with fast percolating sandy soil (which allows unwanted disposal of nitrate into a groundwater aquifer), the book has been useful in my own attempts to explore a design for a passive treatment disposal system in fast-perc soils: dosed effluent from the septic tank would enter a trench that would slow down percolation rate via imported, layered, loamy soils. A bottom layer of added carbon (sawdust for example) would be included for denitrification. Installed sampling risers would allow for trench bottom wastewater testing. No 'whistles or bells' to mess with, as one finds in this book for most engineered systems. The only major drawback to an excellent book like this has to do with newly planned 'sprawl' development served by these alternative septic systems. Many marginal rural properties with considerable septic restrictions can be theoretically developed with the alternative septic techniques covered in this book. Of course Planning Boards don't have to approve new development served by alternative onsite wastewater systems. But if my county is any example, they certainly will. (Although the housing market fiasco we're now in will slow things...for a while). Septic engineers/designers are now touting alternative/decentralized sewage as an 'ecological' way to 'treat' sewage onsite (at great cost). Even though that site may have a freshly carved 2 mile road that leads to the top of a hill so that the 'doctor' can have his million dollar views atop a sandstone bluff with barely 4 inches of topsoil. Engineers, for the most part, are not thinking of sprawl served by septic. See *The Bulldozers in the Countryside* for an example of old-style septic suburbia. Fast forward to sprawl served by 'eco-friendly' advanced onsite wastewater treatment systems.

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