March 20, 2021

To: Health Department Directors, Supervisors, Environmentalists, and KOWA personnel,

Re: Installer certification option due to COVID-19 disruption—Revised Extension Date

Septic System Installer certification ends March 31 each year. During the certification year April 1 through March 31, installers are required to obtain six (6) continuing educational units (CEUs) to remain current/active. Many Health Departments (HDs) are taking precautions and practicing social distancing by canceling installer classes. This cancelation could affect some installers, who need continuing educational units (CEUs) to remain under active status.

Our office has provided several options for Certified Installers to assist with the regulatory certification deadline of March 31.

1) HDs/KOWA can reschedule classes at their discretion, and provide our office with new dates—several HD's are starting to provide in person installer classes
2) Certified Installers can obtain all required CEUs through Orenco’s website https://www.orenco.com/training/webinars utilizing the no-cost recorded webinar options. When utilizing this option, installers register for each course, then submit a completion certificate to our office. There are over twenty-five free (25) recorded webinar options available for viewing.
3) Installers can participate in a rescheduled HD/KOWA class, and maintain their active status and be exempt having to obtain reinstatement CEUs due to taking classes after the March 31 deadline—KOWA has dates for in person classes.
4) Zoeller has begun offering in person classes at their Louisville location.
5) Installers will be provided with an extension of the 2019-2021 certification years until April 30, 2020, June 30, 2020, September 30, 2020, June 30, 2021 to accommodate all involved.

Our office does not anticipate an additional extension due to numerous offerings available to obtain CEUs and the ample 15 month extension from the March 30, 2020 deadline. Any installer that fails to obtain the required 6 CEUs after this fourth extension will be expired in the database, and as a result, can not obtain a permit at their local health department. Expired installers cannot retake the test. They will have to contact our office for options.

We hope to include more in person options as the vaccine is distributed. We have had a numerous amount of installers voicing their approval of on demand offerings which allow them to learn when they choose, and anticipate being able to continue this format. Stay healthy and if you have questions, contact our office.

Respectfully,

Angelina A. Billings, RS
Environmental Health Section Supervisor