



Household Sewage Treatment System

Operation & Maintenance Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is an Operation & Maintenance (O and M) Program?

The goal of the Fulton County O and M Program is to enable system owners to be informed about the care and maintenance of their Household Sewage Treatment System (HSTS), to provide protection of the surface and ground water and lengthen the number of years that the HSTS continues to work as intended.

Why do I need a permit for my household sewage treatment system?

In the statewide sewage rules, specifically the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3701-29, an O and M Permit is required for each HSTS. This provides an on-going evaluation of the system to ensure that it is properly functioning as designed to avoid any conditions that may pose a risk of pollution to you or your neighbor's water supply and property.

What will I have to do to obtain my permit?

Each HSTS owner is required to submit the application and fee to the Fulton County Health Department. Their sewage treatment system must be inspected (by the system owner, a service provider or Health Department representative) and the required O and M inspection form must be submitted. Lastly, the septic tank must be pumped out by a registered septage hauler according to the recommended frequency or as often as necessary to maintain the system.

What is the cost of the permit?

The seven-year permit cost is \$61.00. If a homeowner successfully completes the Homeowner Education Course and passes the test, he/she may complete the inspection and there is no additional fee. The homeowner may employ a registered Service Provider or a Health Department employee to complete the inspection. The fee for a Health Department inspection is \$80.00.

Will I have to replace my existing system?

Replacement systems are only required if your current system is causing a public health nuisance and cannot be repaired to fix the problem.

Who needs a permit and how often?

A seven-year permit is required for any existing or new HSTS. The Health Department created a timeline of implementation for all systems in the county.

Where can I get the forms and application needed to obtain the permit?

When your system's renewal date is approaching, the forms and application will be mailed to you. The forms are also on our website: www.fultoncountyhealthdept.com. You may also contact our office at (419) 337-0915 with any questions.