

Operation and Maintenance FAQ's

Why do I need a permit for my system?

As a result of statewide sewage rules, specifically the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3701-29, an Operation and Maintenance Permit is required for each sewage treatment system to provide 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 sewage treatments system owner is required to have their system inspected, submit the completed permit paperwork, and ensure the septic tank is pumped out by a registered septic hauler at least once every 7 years, or as often as needed to maintain the system.

What is the cost of the permit?

The seven year permit cost is \$61.00. If the homeowner successfully performs the inspection and completes the application paperwork, there are no additional permit fees.

Will I have to replace my existing system?

Septic upgrades are only required if your current system is causing a public health nuisance.

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 you need will be sent to you in the mail. You can also obtain the forms from our website.

Prevent, Protect, Promote

In the 1990's, numerous studies were conducted that showed one third of all sewage treatment systems were failing, causing public health issues.

As a result of these studies, the state legislature determined that actions must take place in order to:

- Protect public health
- Improve water quality
- Protect the rural infrastructure by requiring proper maintenance of the sewage treatment systems now in use.

This unfunded legislative mandate is being funded through the permit fees, which pays for the program designed to meet the guidelines of the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3701-29.

All revenues stay in the private sewage fund. No profit can be made by your health district for this or any other environmental program.

Fulton Co Health Dept

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Operation and Maintenance Program

7-Year Sewage Treatment System Maintenance Permit



Who Needs A Permit and How Often

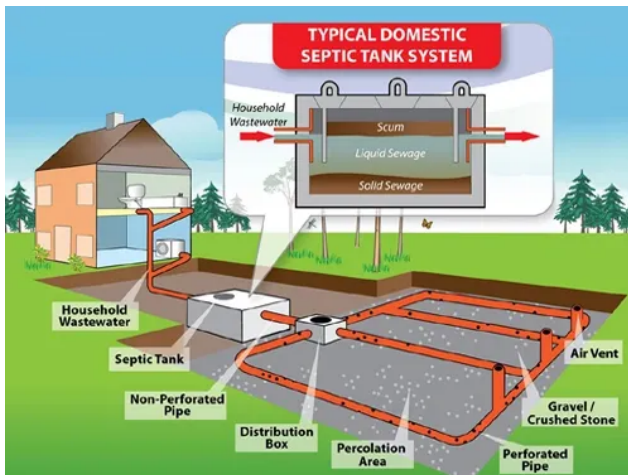
A seven year permit is required for any existing or new sewage treatment system in Fulton County.

Phase one of the program will begin in March 2026 and will include those sewage treatment systems installed from 2009 to the present.

Phase two of the program will include systems installed prior to 2009 and will be implemented by township.

Implementation for the townships is as follows:

1. Amboy, Fulton, and Swancreek
2. Clinton, Pike, Royalton, and York
3. Chesterfield, Dover, Franklin, German, and Gorham.



Minimum Operation and Maintenance Requirements

Every seven years, an operation permit must be obtained.

No signs of system failure and no nuisance can be observed (dye testing may be required, as per the permit guidelines).

Proof that the septic tank has been pumped by a registered septic hauler, documentation showing electrical and mechanical components are operational.

Inspection/maintenance of system components such as:

- Diversion Paddle/Cap Moved
- Effluent Filter Cleaned
- Leachfield Maintained

Maintain operation permits for the life of the sewage treatment system.



The Health Department Will

Supply the owner of each sewage treatment system with the required permit/application paperwork and inspection checklist.

Provide inspection and permit paperwork training opportunities for system owners.



Maintain service records from registered septic haulers for your system, as well as verified inspection/maintenance reports.

Enforce compliance, repair/replacement of systems failing to meet program guidelines through issuance of a public health order and/or referral to the Fulton County Prosecutor's Office.

Conduct required inspections of systems (at the cost of the system owner) if the guidelines of the permits are not met by the system owners.