Home Sewage Treatment System Maintenance
Why is maintaining your septic system important?

1. Saves you money
2. Protects your property value
3. Keeps you and your neighborhood healthy
4. Protects the environment
How Does a Septic System Work?

1. All wastewater from your home flows into a water-tight septic tank that settles all the solids & sludge
2. The liquid part then goes to be treated (leaching area or aeration tank)
3. After treatment, treated wastewater goes into another leaching area & soaks into the soil, or it is discharged
How does a septic system work?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8DID_lyJak
### Types of Septic Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ON-LOT</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>After the solids settle in the septic tank, the liquid part (wastewater) soaks down into the soil, or sometimes might even be evaporated. As it moves through the soil, disease causing agents are removed; the wastewater gets cleaned up.</td>
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<td><em>Must have good soil for this type; no water leaves the property.</em></td>
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<th><strong>DISCHARGING</strong></th>
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<td>After the solids settle in the septic tank, the liquid part (wastewater) goes to be treated (aeration tank or filter bed). The treated wastewater is then discharged off the property into a ditch, culvert, or stream.</td>
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NPDES Systems

• “National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System”
• Must obtain permit from Ohio EPA prior to install
• All discharging septic system installed after 2007
• Subject to annual sampling and maintenance
Warning Signs for Septic System Problems

- Slow or backing up drains
- Gurgling noises in pipes
- Wet area in the yard
- Septic odor in the yard or ditch
- Extremely lush grass growth

"Rick, I think something is wrong with the septic system. The toilet is flushing kind of slowly."
How To Take Care of Your Septic System

- Inspect and Pump
- Use Water Efficiently
- Properly Dispose of Waste
  - Only human waste and toilet paper
How To Take Care of Your Septic System

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwYfMdjU64U
What Do You Do If Your Septic System is Failing?

• Limit water usage
• Contact your local health department to begin the replacement process:
  1. Site and Soil Evaluation
  2. Obtain NPDES permit, if needed (from Ohio EPA)
  3. Contact registered contractors for estimates
Grant Funding for Home Owners:

Summit County Department of Community and Economic Development

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