



**Lorain County
Public Health**

For the Health of Us All

Household Sewage Treatment System Factsheet

Abandonments

What is a household sewage treatment system abandonment?

A household sewage treatment system is abandoned when the home is connected to sanitary sewer or requires the system to be replaced.

Why does a sewage system need to be abandoned? Isn't it all underground?

A household sewage treatment system, even if all components are underground, needs to be properly abandoned. Most systems have risers and lids to the tank that provide access for inspections and servicing. These access points pose a safety hazard if not crushed and properly backfilled.

Is a permit required?

Yes a permit is required. The form can be accessed at www.LorainCountyHealth.com. The person completing the abandonment is responsible for turning this permit form and accompanying pumping slip to Lorain County Public Health. A fee is not required for abandonments due to the replacement of the household sewage treatment system. Contact Lorain County Public Health if you have any questions.

Can I abandon my own tank if I have the equipment?

Yes, but the sewage system's tank must be pumped of all contents prior to the tank being crushed and backfilled. A registered sewage hauler must pump the tank prior. The pumping slip is required for the abandonment permit to be considered complete. Prior to crushing the tank, apply a gallon or two of bleach in the tank area to disinfect any residual effluent.