



Household Sewage Treatment System Operation and Maintenance Program

**Lorain County
Public Health**

For the Health of Us All

Commonly Asked Questions

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

The O&M program protects water quality by tracking and monitoring the proper operation and maintenance of household sewage treatment systems (STS).

Do I need to replace or upgrade my system to meet new requirements?

In most cases, no. If a STS is causing a public health nuisance, LCPH will require repairs, upgrades, or replacement of a STS. However, a properly maintained system can continue operation, regardless of age, until it can no longer function properly or causes a nuisance condition.

What am I required to do?

Homeowners with a STS are required to maintain an Operation Permit through LCPH. An application is mailed to properties enrolled in the program that specifies the permit conditions, current fee, and maintenance requirements of your STS that you are responsible for.

What is the Operation Permit fee for?

The fee covers water sampling activities to identify and prioritize problem areas, homeowner education of their STS, responding to nuisance complaints, tracking of STS operation and maintenance data, and the administration of the O&M program. In the event an evaluation of the STS is needed for a property transfer, no additional fees will be necessary for LCPH to conduct this evaluation.

Am I also required to have a service contract with a private company?

In most cases, no. However, certain systems do require an active service contract in addition to LCPH's Operation Permit. Please reference your O&M application or contact us at (440)-322-6367 to confirm.

Who is approved to work on my system?

LCPH registers local contractors who pump or clean tanks, perform servicing, and install or replace STS. Please visit LorainCountyHealth.com for registered contractor lists.

For more information on...

- ◆ The O&M Program and Operation Permit
- ◆ Proper operation of your STS
- ◆ Approved contractors in Lorain County

Lorain County Public Health

(440)-322-6367

contact@loraincountyhealth.com