



# Household Sewage Treatment System (STS) Operation and Maintenance Program

## How to Maintain Your System

### Pump and Service Frequently

- The average household STS should be pumped every **3-5 years**, or more frequently if the STS serves a large household size or has an undersized tank
- Systems with mechanical components (aerators, pumps, etc.) should be regularly serviced
- Some household STS's require an active service contract to be maintained at all times
  - Examples include off-lot "NPDES" and spray irrigation STS's
  - Contact LCPH if you are unsure if you are required to maintain a contract for your STS

### Use Water Efficiently

- Take steps to reduce water usage inside the home
- Space large water usage events like showers and laundry throughout the week to prevent overloading

### Avoid Disposing The Following Items Down Drains

Cooking grease/oil	Coffee grounds	Cigarette butts
Non-flushable wipes	Cat litter	Paint
Feminine hygiene	Paper towels	Harsh Chemicals
Condoms	Diapers	Food Scraps

### Maintain your Absorption Component/Tank

- Never park or drive on tile fields, mounds, tanks, or other STS components
- Divert surface water away from STS components
- Avoid planting trees or large bushes within 10 feet of any STS component
- Always keep system accessible for service and pumping
- Avoid pouring concrete pads or putting decks, pools, sheds, etc. over tile fields, tanks, or other STS components

#### 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](mailto:contact@loraincountyhealth.com)