



Site Review & Permit Process for a Household Sewage Treatment System

This informational sheet applies to individuals who are...

- Selling or Buying a Lot for New Construction
- Replacing an Existing Sewage Treatment System

1. Contact Lorain County Public Health and ask to speak with a Sanitarian in our Water Quality Program to review your plans.
2. Contact a Certified Soil Scientist to have a soil profile conducted on the lot. This is a privately conducted contractual service, and is not offered by Lorain County Public Health. After the soil profile report is available, this information can then be used to complete the next step. The soil profile must meet all requirements in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-29.
3. Contact a Sewage Treatment System Designer to design a sewage treatment system that meets Ohio Department of Health rules (OAC 3701-29).
4. Complete the Lorain County Public Health Site Review Application and pay the applicable fee. Attach the full soil profile and design to this application and provide to Lorain County Public Health. Please also include proof of ownership.
5. A Sanitarian in our Water Quality Program will review the application and conduct an on-site visit to ensure the proposed sewage treatment system is suitable for the lot.
6. If the lot is approved, you will be notified by Lorain County Public Health. If the lot is disapproved, you or the designer will be notified of changes required prior to approval. Site Review approval is valid for 5 years from the date of approval.

7. When you are ready to install the approved sewage treatment system, an Installation Permit must be obtained prior to any work being conducted. You may designate a representative to obtain your permit (installer, relative, etc.) *If an existing sewage treatment system is in a state of failure, the timeline to obtain the installation permit may be set by Lorain County Public Health.*

8. The installer of the sewage treatment system shall be registered with Lorain County Public Health. Contact Lorain County Public Health or visit LorainCountyHealth.com to view the list of Registered Installers prior to accepting any contracts.

9. The installer will contact Lorain County Public Health for inspections at stages of the install to ensure the system is being properly installed and according to the approved design.

10. Within the 12 month period when the Installation Permit is active, Lorain County **Public Health will “final” the permit once the system is properly installed and connected** to a home.

11. Within one year of when the STS Installation Permit is finalized/approved, Lorain County Public Health will conduct an evaluation of the system.

12. All new and replacement sewage treatment systems will be enrolled in a mandatory Operation and Maintenance Program that requires an annual fee for Lorain County Public Health to conduct a program to ensure Household Sewage Treatment Systems are operating properly and not contaminating surface or ground **water. For more information on Lorain County Public Health’s Operation and Maintenance Program please visit LorainCountyHealth.com**

For more information on the Site Review Process please call (440)-322-6367 and ask for a Sanitarian in the Water Quality Program

Site Review & Permitting

Additional Information for New Construction

- Prior to purchasing a parcel of land for new construction, contact Lorain County Public Health to ensure a completed site review does not already exist for the parcel.
- Not all parcels are suitable for on-site sewage treatment system. Therefore, prior to purchasing a parcel of land for new construction, consult Lorain County Public Health or have the site review completed prior to purchasing to ensure the parcel can be built on.
- Per Ohio Department of Health rules, the soil absorption component of the proposed household sewage treatment system must remain protected throughout construction and shall only be accessed or disturbed by the registered installer of the sewage treatment system. The soil absorption component will be marked on the property- see example below. The absorption component is the area receiving the sewage effluent (*mound, spray irrigation zone, leaching trench field, etc.*)



Do Not
Remove
Stakes, Flags,
Ropes, Etc.

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