

HOW TO GET A SEPTIC PERMIT

1. Be prepared to describe how to get to your site by knowing road names, distances, and directions.
2. If someone cannot meet us at the site, place a cardboard or wooden sign at the side of the road where your driveway will begin.
3. Stake the path of the drive – lead us to the home site with flags or other markers.
4. The soil must be tested to a depth of five feet in the area where the lateral field will be, and a soil report must be prepared. You must hire a soil scientist who is licensed in Indiana to do this. There are five serving Harrison County:

Jack Coulter - (812) 723-2846

Jack Deal - (812) 923-3769

George McElrath, Jr. – (812) 948-9145

John Robbins, Jr. – (812) 752-7160

Spencer Williams - (877) 556-1557



5. Contact aseptic system installer. The health department has a list of 40-50 licensed installers available if needed. This list is also available online: www.harrisoncountyhealth.com/installer.htm.

Your septic installer and the soil scientist should work together to determine the best location for your lateral field based on soils and surface characteristics of your unique site.

6. Have the installer lay out the proposed location of the tank, distribution box, and lateral lines at the site with flags, paint, or other markers (below). This way everyone can be sure the system will fit on the lot and in the proposed location.



7. The homeowner or builder must fill out Page 1 of the Application for On-Site Sewage Disposal System. This form is available on our website at www.harrisoncountyhealth.com/Septic_Application_2011.pdf. If you don't have internet access, it can be picked up from the health department office, or we can mail or fax it to you.

The septic installer must submit a Site Plan Drawing on Page 2 of the application to the health department. He must also schedule a site survey appointment with environmental health personnel.

8. After all steps have been completed and the health department determines the site is suitable for a septic system, the homeowner or builder will be issued an On-Site Sewage Disposal Permit.

After you have:

1) had the soil scientist check your soil and prepare a soil report,

2) completed the Application for On-Site Sewage Disposal System,

3) had your installer lay out the septic system (on the property) with the home location and dimensions marked, AND completed the Site Survey drawing,

call the health department at 738-3237 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM weekdays.

Environmental health personnel can probably see your site the same day. They will go to the site, check the topography, the proposed home location, the septic layout, etc. If everything is okay, they will issue your septic permit at that time.

A septic permit for new construction costs \$50.00.

A repair permit for an existing system costs \$20.00.

THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT SITES

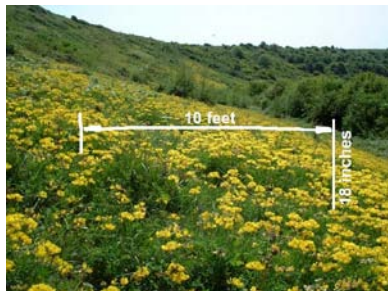
DO NOT scrape or dig in the area of the proposed lateral field (except for the test holes). *Cutting or scraping the soil could render the site useless for on-site waste disposal.*

Have the installer lay out the lateral lines along the contours, NOT up and down the slopes.

AVOID areas subject to flooding and/or areas along natural drainage ways (below).



AVOID slopes steeper than 15%. This equals 18" of fall in 10 feet of run (below). Be sure to check your site before proceeding.



This photo is for illustration purposes only. The slope shown may actually be more than 15%.

AVOID sinkholes (below), caves, ponds and lakes by at least 50 feet.



AVOID streams, ditches, and other drainage ways by at least 25 feet.

AVOID eroded areas which have less than 34 inches of good soil (below).



AVOID poorly drained areas. Test holes revealing an abundance of gray or yellow mottling indicate limiting layers or a high water table (below).



Steps in Obtaining a Septic Permit



**HARRISON COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT**
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
241 ATWOOD STREET, SUITE 200
CORYDON, INDIANA 47112
812-738-3237

For more information, visit our website:

www.harrisoncountyhealth.com

Environmental Health > Septic Systems