

Regulation For Septic Systems with Aerobic Treatment Units



STARK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

In January 2012, the Stark County Health Department updated regulations regarding home septic systems which utilize aerobic treatment units. Aerobic treatment units use oxygen to effectively treat the waste in your septic system. These units are highly mechanical and require regular maintenance to function properly, in addition to tank pumping. Without proper maintenance these systems may fail, releasing untreated waste which can spread disease. This regulation also comes after Ohio EPA studies have shown that untreated sewage has significantly impaired Stark County's rivers and creeks, due in part to poorly maintained aerobic treatment units.

To protect Stark County from failing aerobic treatment units, all homeowners with these systems are **required to have a service contract with a registered service provider. The contract must be maintained for the life of the system** or penalties may be assessed against you. In order to administer this program, a \$30 fee has been assessed to your service provider for each new and renewed contract they issue. The service provider will inspect and maintain your system. Maintaining your system will ensure its effectiveness and prevent malfunction. If you are interested in servicing your unit yourself, then please contact Courtney Myers at 330-493-9904 x 2019 for details.

Sometimes taken for granted, your septic system is an expensive component of your home. Having regular maintenance under a service contract is one way to protect your investment. Aerator systems are similar to a sanitary sewer system and a central treatment plant, which must also be maintained. Those who utilize the sanitary sewer pay over \$260 per year; similar costs are associated with maintaining your "residential" treatment plant.

Here are a few other suggestions to keep your system working properly:

- Pump your tank every 3-5 years or when recommended by your service provider.
- Use water efficiently and spread laundry out over the week.
- Reduce garbage disposal usage and do not dump fats, oils or grease down the drain.
- Don't dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.
- Don't not flush hygiene products, kitty litter or diapers.
- Do not drive over parts of your system that are buried in the yard.
- Learn more about your aerator or to obtain a copy of your system's operation and maintenance manual by visiting www.starkhealth.org.

Additional Information can be located at:

www.starkhealth.org



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