



Septic Repair Program

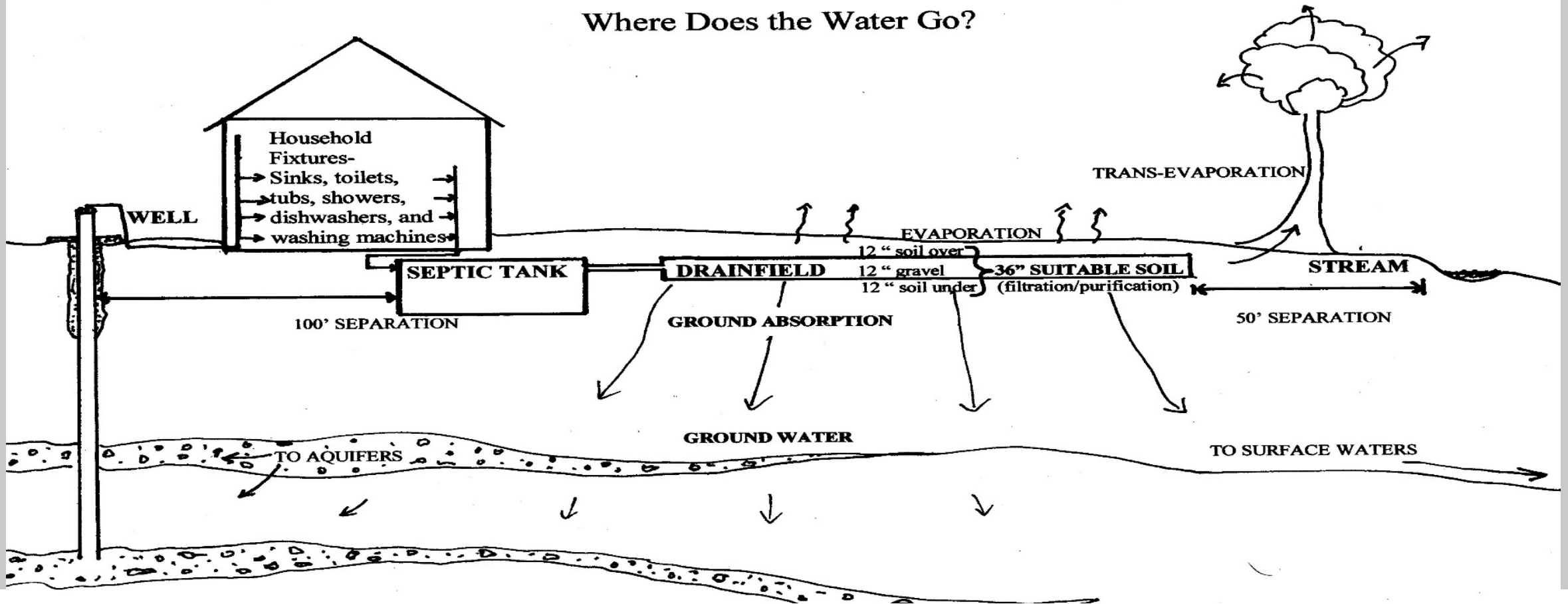
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Environmental Health and Permits & Inspections



Where Does the Water Go?



What Is A Septic System?

- Avoids the spread of disease by preventing human sewage from contaminating ground, surface, well water supplies

Why Do Septic Systems Fail?

- Too much water is introduced into the system
- System integrity has been compromised (ex. Driveway over system components, vegetation overgrowth, etc.)
- Lack of system maintenance
- Improper use (ex. Flushing wipes, grease, cleaning chemicals, etc.)
- Age of system- most systems are designed with a designated repair area



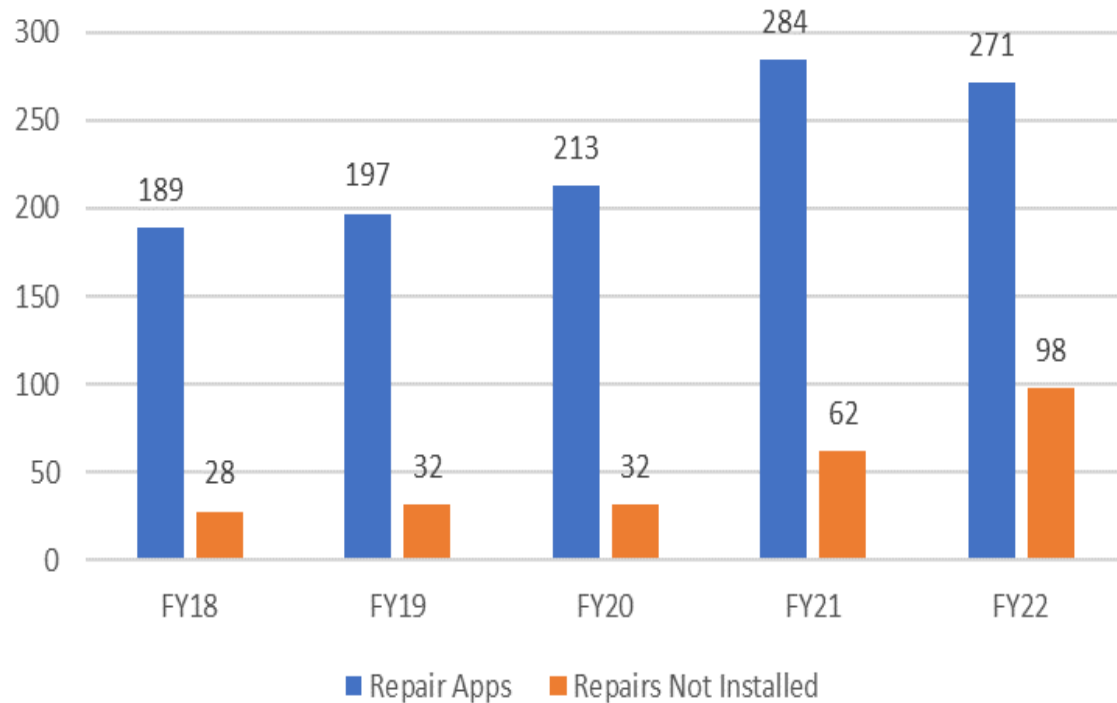
Septic System Failures or Complaints

- Sewage comes up on the ground surface, or goes into any stream, creek or lake, or contaminates the ground water (well water supply)
- Sewage backs up into the building
- Sewage straight piped/discharged on the ground



Why Are Repairs Not Completed?

Repair Applications and Pending Installations



- Costs of repairs range from \$500-\$21,000
- Workload demands on inspectors and contractors
- Supply chain issues
- Lengthy process to pursue legally required mitigation through courts



Why Is This Program Important?



Failures can contaminate groundwater, drinking water, and/or surface water supplies

Surfacing sewage can expose people and animals to diseases such as E.coli, cryptosporidium, Giardia, etc. and can have long term health effect



Septic Repair Program Overview

- \$75,000 included in the FY23 budget to address failing septic systems
- Program will fund 100% of septic repair cost
- Using FY22 data, there are 98 repairs and 20 notices of violations that may benefit from this program
- Application (fillable pdf) must be received from the property owner



Selection Criteria

1. Property (land and home) is owner-occupied, 12 months out of the year
2. Income does not exceed 80% of Area Median Income
3. Liquid reserve amount does not exceed 50% of income
4. Bids from 3 contractors have been solicited
5. Once EH verifies repair work is complete, Permits & Inspection will pay the contractor
6. Owner must occupy home for 3 years after repair installation; County will have a diminishing lien secured by a Deed of Trust

FY22 80% of Area Median Income		
# in Household	Yearly Income Limit	Reserve Limit (50%)
1	\$45,000	\$22,500
2	\$51,400	\$25,700
3	\$57,800	\$28,900
4	\$64,250	\$32,125
5	\$69,400	\$34,700



Selection Criteria

1. Impact to Human Health
 - Is the failing system backing up into the home/building?
2. Water Quality
 - Proximity to body of water
 - Quantity of sewage – constant flow vs. small leak
3. Cost
 - Funding availability
4. History of notices of violation
 - Multiple EH NOV's
 - NOV's from other departments



Next Steps

September

- Finalize program documents (communications, legal review, equity analysis, etc.)
- Present program details to Commissioners
- EH to gather a list of owners and addresses that may benefit from the program
- Work with Communications on messaging

October

- Advertise program

Nov- December

- Begin receiving applications
- Budget estimates provided for FY24

Jan - Feb

- Evaluate applications
- Project awards

March-June

- Construction

