

Self Installation Check List for Homeowners

Required Inspection

- ف Test hole/site evaluation
- ف Trench Inspection (trenches excavated, no gravel or pipe in trench, just the bare trench)
- ف Final Inspection (everything is done but system is not covered)

Set Backs

- ف Drain field 50 feet from all temporary surface water (irrigation ditches, canals, etc.)
- ف Drain field 100, 200 or 300 feet from surface water*
- ف Drain field 100 feet from well
- ف Drain field 10 feet from foundation or 20 feet from basement
- ف Septic tank 50 feet from well
- ف Septic tank 50 feet from permanent surface water
- ف Septic tank 5 feet from foundation
- ف Septic tank and drain field 6 feet apart
- ف Drain field 5 feet from property line
- ف Designated replacement area for drain field that can also meet the above setbacks

*Class A soils = 300 feet, Class B soils = 200 feet, Class C soils = 100 feet.

Construction Components

- ف Trenches no more than 6 feet wide and no longer than 100 feet long
- ف At least 6 feet of undisturbed ground between trenches
- ف Trenches no deeper than 4 feet deep or as indicated on permit/engineering report

- ف If using standard trench system, 6 inches of washed gravel under pipe and 2 inches of washed gravel on top of pipe (total of 12 inches of gravel: 6 inches under pipe + 4 inches of pipe + 2 inches on top of pipe = 12 inches of gravel)
- ف Geotextile fabric, straw or non-treated building paper (must cover drainfield entirely).

Note: The above is only a brief description of the requirements of an underground disposal system and is in no way a complete or comprehensive summary of the Technical Guidance Manual (TGM). All rules and regulations and other sections of the TGM must be met in order for approval of system to be given

For more
information contact,
Environmental Health
Services at
208-455-5400 or



13307 Miami Lane, Caldwell ID 83607

Updated April 2019
In-house brochure created December 2006
Division of Environmental Health



Subsurface Sewage
Disposal System
Application and
Permitting Process

Southwest District Health

Applying for a Septic Permit at Southwest District Health

The following information is intended to aid applicants by providing information on how to successfully apply for a septic permit, obtain a permit, and meet installation requirements.

Application Requirements

- Obtain a septic permit application either on-line or at any Southwest District Health (SWDH) office.
- Applications must be complete and include a zoning certificate, parcel number, and a detailed plot plan. (see example to the right)
- The appropriate fees must be submitted at this time.

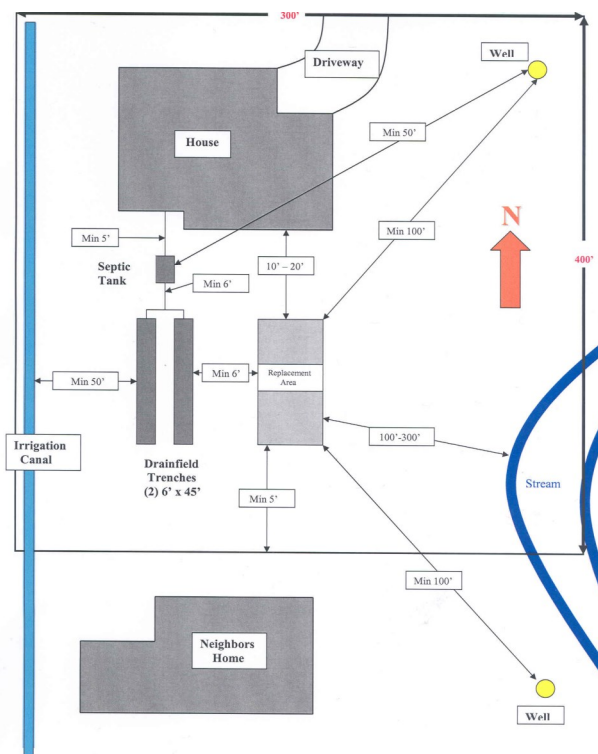
Test Hole Requirements

- Schedule a test hole with the Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) at least 48 hours prior.
- Applicant and/or installer **MUST** be on site during the site evaluation.

- Test holes must be excavated while the EHS is present.
- The drainfield must be placed within 50 feet of the test hole.
- Permit will be issued or denied within three (3) working days.
- Permits can be picked-up, mailed, or sent via facsimile.

Note: Southwest District Health may require soil analysis, groundwater monitoring, trench inspections, engineering or maintenance agreements for complex alternative systems or as specified on any particular lot where appropriate.

PLOT PLAN



Final Inspection Requirements:

- All subsurface sewage disposal systems must be inspected prior to covering, (Prior 48 hour notification is required).
- Installers **MUST** be on site during the final inspection(s).
- Gravel/sand receipts may be requested. A list of approved gravel products may be obtained through SWDH.
- Systems where construction is not completely finished, installer not present, etc. will not be finalized and must remain uncovered until finalized.



Note: Additional inspections may be required for complex alternative systems or on standard systems when required by EHS staff.

Caldwell.....455-5400

Payette.....642-9321

Emmett.....365-6371

Weiser.....549-2370

Website: www.phd3.idaho.gov