



Operation & Maintenance Requirements for New, Replacement and Alterations of Sewage Treatment Systems

Your operational permit provides you with the following services :

- Maintenance of permanent electronic files that contain all data collected or submitted that pertains to the installation, operation and maintenance of your sewage system
- Operational inspection within the first 12 months once the homeowner's sewage system is completed and operational to ensure that the system is operating as it was designed to do
- Operation & Maintenance information for the homeowner pertaining to the specific type of system installed on their property
- Reminders for the renewal of operational permits and service contracts
- Provide training opportunities for service providers
- Conduct random inspections and monitoring of service on sewage systems to ensure service providers are providing good quality service
- Notices about operation and maintenance informational seminars available for homeowners

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON SEWAGE TREATMENT
SYSTEMS VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT
WWW.LCGHD.ORG

Lake County General Health District (LCGHD)

Why do we need Operation & Maintenance Management Programs for Sewage Treatment Systems?

Everyone flushes a toilet, takes a bath or a shower, washes their dishes, and does laundry, all of which generates wastewater (sewage). There are really only two practical choices for wastewater treatment on a day to day basis: flushing into the sanitary sewer which flows to a large wastewater treatment plant or flushing into a sewage treatment system on the owners property. There is an obvious cost to wastewater treatment just as there is with other utilities such as paying for heat, drinking water, or electricity. The homeowner either pays to be connected to a sanitary sewer and pays quarterly sewage treatment bills or the homeowner pays to install a sewage treatment system and for an operational permit and a service contract to maintain the sewage treatment system. All sewage treatment systems need maintenance whether they are the large municipal treatment plants or a septic tank with leaching lines, a mound, or drip distribution. All wastewater treatment systems have tanks that need to be pumped, filters that need to be cleaned, dosing rates and flow rates that need to be checked, and other similar maintenance components.

Why is it important for a property owner to maintain their STS:

- Helps to assure proper operation of system for effective treatment of sewage and to preserve and protect surface water and ground water quality
- Extends the life of the sewage treatment system to prevent the need for premature repair or costly replacement
- Proper function of sewage treatment systems helps to prevent sewage nuisance conditions in your neighborhood, which improves the quality of life

Operation & Maintenance Regulations

- OAC 3701-29-19 (state rules) requires the Board of Health to develop a program to ensure that sewage treatment system owners properly maintain and operate their system.
- OAC 3701-29-09 (I) (state rules) require homeowners to obtain an operational permit and to comply with the conditions of the permit
- LCGHD Supplemental STS RULES require the sewage treatment system (STS) owner to obtain an annual operational permit and maintain a service contract with a registered Lake County service provider.
- STS owners will receive an application for the operational permit within one year from the date of the completion of the system final inspection. Owners must complete the application, sign it, include the appropriate fee which ranges between \$20-\$40 annually for soil absorption systems and \$160 for NPDES discharging systems.