

Pike County Health Department
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STEPS FOR INSTALLING A SEPTIC SYSTEM

- 1) **Soil Evaluation** The first step is to get a soil evaluation done on your property by a qualified soil scientist. The Health Department can provide you with a list of qualified soil scientists. Soil scientists are private business persons and do not work for the county.

- 2) **Choose an Installer and a Septic System** When you get your soil report, you can use it to get bids from installers. The Health Department can provide you with a list of licensed septic system installers to choose from. (Septic system installation is required by law to be done by a Pike County licensed installer. If you are inclined to install your own system, ask the Health Department for the procedure for doing this.)

- 3) A permit is required in Pike County for an Approved System and for all Septic Systems on 3.0 acres or less. A permit is not required for systems on more than 3.0 acres. However, systems on more than 3.0 acres are required to be installed by a licensed installer and according to State Standards. (If you want an Approved system for your home on more than 3.0 acres, you can still get a permit.) **Submit Proposal/Pay Permit Fee** After you and your installer decide which type of septic system is best for your property, the installer will submit to the Health Department a Permit Application for the septic system. A \$90.00 permit fee is required at this time. Please make check or money order payable to ***Pike County Health Department***. Sometimes the installer will pay this fee and include the amount in your bid. Be sure to clarify this issue with your installer.

- 4) **Review of Proposal** The Pike County Health Department will review the Permit Application and either accept or reject the proposal within 15 days. A preliminary site inspection may be performed at this time. The Health Department's review of the Permit Application is one way to make sure you will be getting the legal and appropriate system for your property.

- 5) **Permit Issued** When the Permit Application is approved and the permit fee is paid, a permit to begin construction is issued to the installer. No work may begin until a permit has been issued.

- 6) **Final Inspection** Installers must call for a final inspection before 10:00 am on the day prior to completion of the installation. Registered installers may forego a final inspection, only after receiving specific permission from the Health Department. **No backfilling is allowed until final inspection is conducted.**

The Pike County Health Department does not guarantee that permitted systems will function as designed and are not liable for damages.