

Well and Onsite Wastewater Facts

WASTEWATER TECHNOLOGY

FSN - 17

Loudoun County Health Department

July 2016

Component Type: Holding Tank -- Pump and Haul

Function: A holding tank provides onsite storage for wastewater. The same manufactured tanks are also used for septic, settling, trash, pump, and holding tanks. The holding tank must be pumped out periodically. The pumped wastewater must be transported and delivered to a designated wastewater receiving station such as the Broad Run Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Manufacturers:

Winchester Building Supply, Inc.
Hanover Precast, Inc.
Roth Global Plastics
Infiltrator Systems, Inc.

First approved in Virginia: unknown.

Number approved holding tanks in Loudoun County: approx 90

Component requires a County 1067 inspection - NO

Description of Use

Holding tanks are used in conjunction with systems which are designated as Pump and Haul (P&H). There are three categories of P&H: Emergency; Temporary; and Permanent. Temporary P&H is used where sewers are being constructed but have not been connected to allow flow to a Sewage Treatment Plant. Emergency P&H is for those cases where a dispersal system has failed and it will take some time to design and install a new system. Permanent P&H is for situations where sewers are not available and an onsite system cannot be constructed, i.e. no available soil for a dispersal system. Permanent P&H is allowed only if a governmental entity e.g. County Board of Supervisors, agrees to allow and manage it under a permit from the Virginia Health Department. A well designed and maintained concrete, fiberglass or plastic holding tank should last about 50 years. The tanks should be easily accessible to the sewage handler. Each tank must have audio/visual alarms installed to identify high sewage levels and many must have telemetry which will send the high level to the operator.

Recommended Maintenance Required

The tank must be pumped as needed and reported (all licensed operator/pumpers in Loudoun County have agreed to report to the Health Department (VDH). Owners can see the reports by going to www.onlinerme.com. Frequency varies depending on use, from daily to maybe once a quarter. The tank and risers should be watertight. Lids must be secure and safe. The alarm must be functioning as designed. The tank must be structurally sound and water tight. There should not be any sewage on the ground due to the lack of pumping in a timely manner. Sewage handlers are permitted by VDH and Loudoun County. The individual pumping the tank must be licensed by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation as either a Conventional or Alternative Onsite System Operator (effective 7/1/2009).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON SPECIFIC TREATMENT OR DISPERSAL COMPONENTS BY GOING TO THE VDH WEB SITE

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/environmental-health/onsite-sewage-water-services/manufacturers-instructions/>

Type System

Pump & Haul



Plastic



Concrete



Fiberglass