



## Hocking County Health Department Property Inspection Summary

### Private Water Systems:

1. Contact the Health Department at 740-385-3030 ext. 2 to schedule the inspection. The application and fee must be submitted prior to the inspection.
2. Water samples are collected on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning each week. Samples are analyzed at Ream & Haager Laboratories and results are usually received within 48 hours. Test strips will be used to determine if nitrates are present.
3. If additional water testing is required such as for lead or arsenic, please notify us so we can bring the correct sample bottles. These tests may take longer to analyze and there is an additional lab fee.
4. For lead sampling, the water cannot be used for at least 6 hours.
5. If the home has been vacant for more than 2 weeks, it is best to flush the water system prior to testing.
6. Chlorinating the system prior to sampling is not recommended. If the system is chlorinated, it must be free of chlorine for at least 48 hours prior to obtaining the water sample. Please refer to our website for complete chlorination instructions.
7. The water system will be inspected for proper construction and isolation distances. Springs and cisterns (not hauled water tanks) require continuous disinfection.
8. There is a \$50 re-sample fee if the water sample cannot be collected at the time of inspection.

### Sewage Treatment Systems:

1. Inspections are conducted any weekday between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM.
2. The application and fee must be submitted prior to the inspection.
3. All inspected systems will automatically be issued an Operation Permit which must be renewed every 10 years. Systems consisting of a pretreatment unit such as an aerator require a service contract with a Registered Service Provider.
4. The system must be working properly and meet the code standards for when it was installed. Drywells, clay tiles, or metal tanks cannot be used and must be replaced.
5. If the system consists of a septic tank, the lids must be at or above grade. If the tank has not been pumped within 5 years or requires pumping, it must be pumped out by a Registered Septage Hauler **AFTER** the inspection and the pump report submitted to this office.
6. A septic tank may only discharge into a leachfield otherwise an Alteration Permit must be obtained and leaching installed.
7. If the system consists of an aerator, the motor must be working at the time of the inspection and the lids of all chambers must be at or above grade. Aerator motors must be the same brand as the aerator unless it discharges to leaching. For example, a Jet aerator requires a Jet motor and a Norweco aerator a Norweco motor.
8. If the aerator has not been pumped within 5 years or requires pumping, it must be pumped out by a registered hauler **AFTER** the inspection and the pump report submitted to this office.
9. All parts of the septic system must be in the same working condition as when it was originally permitted. For example, chlorinators must be equipped with chlorine tablets designed for septic systems (swimming pool tablets are not acceptable), upflow filters must have clean gravel, and aerators must have their required filters.
10. The system may need to be dye-tested which requires running water into the system and the tank or aerator must be full.

### Health Department Use Only:

Permit	Fee	Date	Receipt	Permit #
Operation Permit	Waived			

*For more information visit our website at: [www.hockingcountyhealthdepartment.com](http://www.hockingcountyhealthdepartment.com).*