Summit County Public Health

1867 West Market Street Akron, Ohio 44313-6901
Phone: (330) 926-5600 Toll-free: 1 (877) 687-0002 Fax: (330) 923-6436
www.scph.org

Operation Permit Maintenance Requirements:

PRETREATMENT TO TRENCHES

Homes that are not connected to sanitary sewer must have a household sewage treatment system (HSTS). The HSTS gathers all the wastewater from the home and treats it through various methods before returning the water to the environment. Summit County Public Health (SCPH) requires that these HSTS be functioning as designed. When these systems are not functioning properly, they create a public health nuisance and must be repaired or replaced to ensure that the wastewater from the home is adequately treated.

The operation permit program is designed to help ensure that the HSTS in Summit County are functioning properly. To do so, SCPH requires the following services be performed on your septic system:

1. Check diversion and distribution boxes
2. Check for ponding and/or surfacing sewage effluent over trenches
3. Check that interceptor and curtain drains are clear of debris and effluent
4. Check distribution boxes for structural integrity and surface water infiltration
5. Must meet all manufacturer's requirements of the pretreatment components

Frequency of Service: Once every 2 years

Permit Term: 2 years

PLEASE NOTE: SCPH does not provide these services.
A registered service provider must perform these services.

For additional information about the Operation Permit Program or to view a list of registered service providers, please visit the Water Quality page at www.scph.org or call 330-926-5600.

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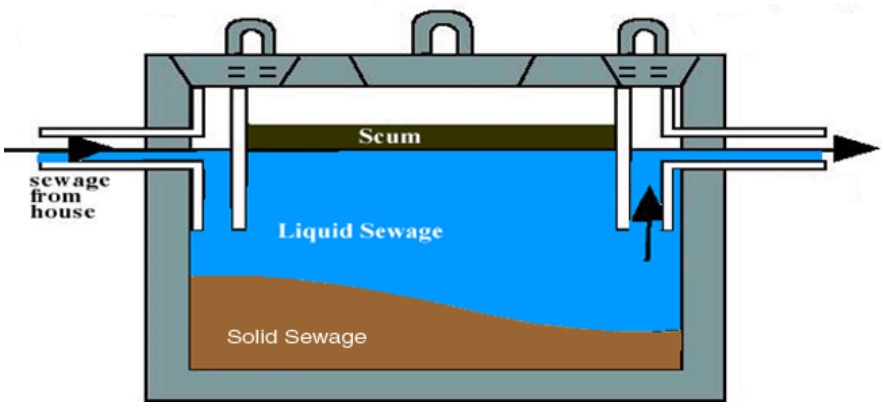
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION OR LEACHING TRENCHES

(pretreatment to trenches)

A class 1 wastewater treatment plant or filter bed is used to treat the wastewater from the home. The water then travels from the aeration unit or filter bed into either evapotranspiration trenches or leaching trenches.

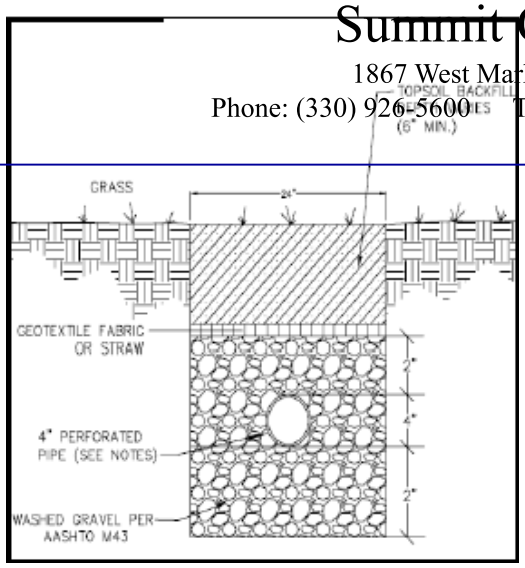
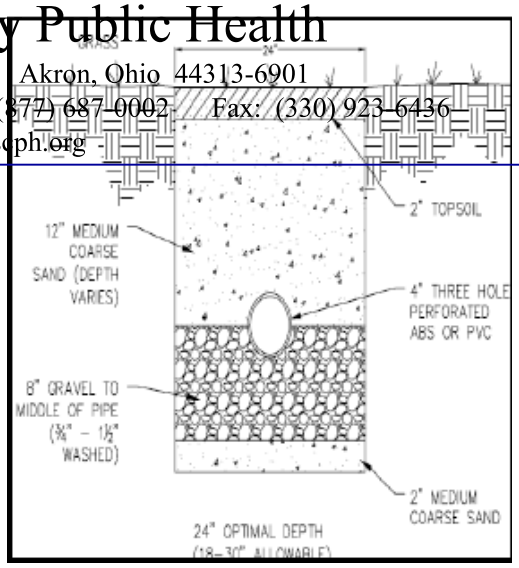
Leaching Trenches- After the wastewater leaves the pretreatment component, it flows into a distribution box, where it is evenly distributed into a network of perforated pipes laid in gravel trenches in the ground. The effluent seeps from these pipes and into the soil where it is further treated and dispersed. The soil is used as the primary media for treatment. Depth of the trench depends on site conditions and rule requirement.

Evapotranspiration trenches- These systems were used in slowly permeable soils with high seasonal water tables. The bottom half of the trench is filled with gravel and the top half is filled with sand with at least two inches of topsoil cover. The gravel allows for the effluent to drain into the soil. The sand wicks the water towards the surface. This helps the water evaporate and be utilized by plant roots. Depth of the trench depends on site conditions and rule requirements.



or

LEACHING TRENCH

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION TRENCH

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