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:

SPRAY IRRIGATION

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 sludge levels in trash trap/ tank and pump when needed
2. Check failsafe systems where applicable
3. Check aerator, pump, and high water alarm
4. Check UV light or chlorine disinfection to see if functional; refill or replace chlorine or UV bulb as needed.
5. Check and clean filters
6. Comply with all manufacturer requirements for system
7. Turn on the irrigation system to check spray head function and spray pattern; repair, adjust, or replace spray heads as needed.
8. Check for ponding and runoff
9. Place several rain gauges in the irrigation area to check the depth of application. (The system should apply no more than 0.2 inches per day to prevent ponding or runoff)
10. Check for landscaping changes that interfere with system operation

Frequency of Service: Two times per year

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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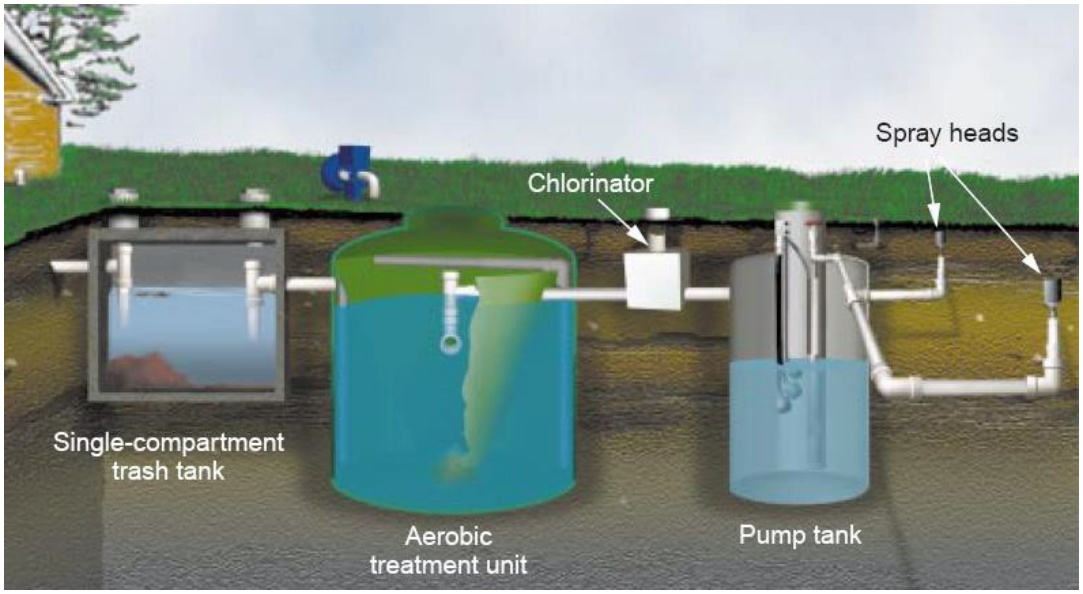
Spray irrigation is a method for disposing of treated wastewater by spraying it on the land surface. Wastewater from the home enters a pre-treatment tank where grease, oils, toilet paper, and other solids and foreign materials settle out in the bottom of the tank. Wastewater from the pre-treatment tank enters the aerobic chamber where air is compressed and forced into the wastewater to increase the growth of beneficial bacteria that consume the solids. Next, the wastewater enters a settling or clarifying chamber where any remaining solids can settle out of the wastewater. The wastewater then moves to a pumping chamber where it receives a final treatment of ultraviolet light or a highly concentrated tablet form of chlorine specifically designed to treat wastewater. After the treatment process is completed, the water is then pumped to the spray heads. The sprayed wastewater evaporates into the air or soaks into the ground