Service Contract Maintenance Requirements

Pretreatment to Evapotranspiration Trenches or Leaching Trenches

Summit County Public Health requires the following services be performed on your septic system a minimum of once every 2 years to ensure your system is adequately treating wastewater.

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

Permit Renewal Fee: $30.00

**PLEASE NOTE: Summit County Public Health does not provide these services. A licensed service provider must be contracted to provide these services. Any inspection done by SCPH is to verify there is no public health nuisance present and there are no obvious signs that the system is not functioning as designed.

For any further questions on your septic system or the Operation Inspection Program please visit [www.scphoh.org](http://www.scphoh.org) or call 330-926-5600.

**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. SCPH requires that these Home Sewage Treatment System be functioning as designed. If they are creating a public health nuisance they must be repaired or replaced so that they are properly treating wastewater.
Pretreatment to Evapotranspiration Trenches or Leaching Trenches

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

Leaching Trenches- After the wastewater leaves the septic tank, 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.