

## **Steps for Altering or Repairing an Existing Sewage Treatment System**

1. If you experience odors, surfacing in the yard, discharge of sewage or other nuisance conditions; contact your service provider (if you have one) and the local health district.
2. You may wish to restrict your water use, and space out heavy uses of water such as laundry, to ease the load on the sewage system until the problem can be resolved
3. If you have a service provider, they will likely contact you or come directly to your property to examine the system. They may need information about your water use, or different materials that may have been flushed or drained into your system. Depending on your service agreement, and the system problems, the service provider may be able to repair your system. Typically, a repair means replacing like parts or adjusting a system's operation and does not require a permit from the local health district.
4. If the system cannot be repaired by a service provider or a sewage system contractor, and the system must be altered or replaced, then a permit will be required from the local health district. Your local health district will work with you and the sewage contractor to determine the best way to alter your system if possible to fix the nuisance conditions.
5. If an alteration to the system is not possible, then a complete replacement of the system will be required. If you have an existing sewage system that discharges off the property and is creating a nuisance condition, then you may need to replace your system with a system that complies with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency General Household National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit for discharging systems. If a replacement system can be installed on your lot that uses the soil for final treatment, please refer to the steps required for a new sewage treatment system installation.