

Fix It Before It Fails

Be a Good Neighbor



Without proper maintenance and good system design, your sewage could go into your neighbor's yard (and their sewage could come into your yard) contaminating the ground water with disease-causing germs like *E.coli*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, polio, hepatitis, *Cryptosporidium*.

In addition to the diseases themselves, mosquitoes and flies that spread some illnesses can breed in areas where liquid waste reaches the surface.

The problems of a failing septic system don't stop at your property line. Sewage and disease can impact the health of your neighbors and your community.

In addition to creeping into the yard next door, contaminants such as *E.coli* can get into our beaches. The Ohio Department of Health has identified home sewage system discharge as a contributing factor to unhealthy bacteria levels at Ohio's beaches. When the levels reach a certain point, the beach must issue an advisory and the beach manager can even close it to the public.

Your septic system won't last forever, but you can extend the life of it and delay expensive replacement with maintenance and replacement of broken parts. Ohio's new sewage system rules DO NOT require everyone to automatically replace their system with new technology. You will have to replace your system WHEN it fails- but that's been the law in Ohio since 1977. These new septic system rules give you more options to fix it before it fails and more ways to prevent sewage from making you, your family, your neighbors and your community sick from the germs of septic waste.

