

Septic Systems

TERMS

Effluent-liquid waste or sewage

Septic Tank- an underground chamber made of concrete, fiberglass, or plastic through which domestic wastewater (sewage) flows for basic sewage treatment.

Cesspool - an underground container for the temporary storage of liquid waste and sewage.

Drain Fields- also called leach fields, are subsurface wastewater disposal facilities used to remove contaminants and impurities from the liquid that emerges after anaerobic digestion in a septic tank.

Grey Water- or sullage is all wastewater generated in households or office buildings from streams without fecal contamination. By definition, greywater is generally waste water from showers, baths, basins, and washing machines.

Black Water- is water contaminated by hazardous materials such as human waste or soil.

CONVENTIONAL SEPTIC SYSTEMS

The most common and traditional septic systems consist of a septic tank that gravity flows to a drain field/leach field for final treatment and dispersal. The septic tank allows particulate matter to settle to the bottom of the tank so that large solids do not plug the drain field. An effluent screen placed in the outlet of the septic tank is used to filter suspended solids out of the effluent. The final stage of wastewater treatment takes place in drain field/leach field.

NON-TRADITIONAL SEPTIC SYSTEMS/ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS (OWTS)

A non-traditional system performs the same basic actions as conventional septic systems. Differences arise when location, space, laws, regulations, soil type, and/or quantity of wastewater being treated become a limiting factor. A non-traditional system in this case *refers to any OWTS that uses pumps or advanced treatment*. These systems use technologies that require a greater frequency of operation and maintenance.

These systems are required on the lake side of the road on Boone Lake to decrease the likelihood of wastewater leaching into the lake.