

Loudoun County Health Department

P.O. Box 7000
Leesburg VA 20177-7000



Environmental Health
Phone: 703 / 777-0234
Fax: 703/771-5023

Community Health
Phone: 703/777-0236
Fax: 703/ 771-5393

Sample Letter to Property Owners with Non-Conventional Septic Systems

Dear Homeowner,

Records at the Loudoun County Health Department (LCHD) show that your property has a non-conventional onsite sewage disposal system. If you believe that this information is in error for any reason please contact us at 703-777-0234.

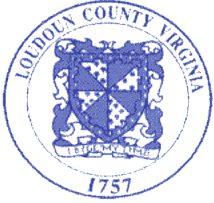
The purpose of this letter is to advise you that an inspection of your non-conventional onsite wastewater treatment system (commonly called the septic system or drainfield) is required by July 1, 2009, and annually thereafter.

Failure to maintain an onsite system can cause partially treated or raw sewage to surface on the ground creating an unsanitary condition. Non-conventional onsite systems typically cost two to four times that of a conventional onsite system. If these systems are not maintained, repairs can be costly. On November 3, 2008, the Board of Supervisors passed County Ordinance 1067 requiring annual inspections of non-conventional onsite systems and civil penalties for non-compliance. This ordinance can be found on the County Web Site at www.loudoun.gov/ordinance-1067.

The ordinance provides that the inspection can be performed by an individual:

- (i) Certified by the Virginia Department of Health as an authorized onsite soil evaluator (a listing of these individuals is available at www.vdh.virginia.gov/EnvironmentalHealth/Onsite/AOSE/AOSElist/index.htm),
- (ii) Licensed by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation as a professional engineer (a listing of these individuals is available at www.dpor.virginia.gov, click on "License Lookup" and then check professional engineer under APELSCIDLA and add your search criteria, such as zip code),
- (iii) Qualified as an accredited septic system inspector, as such term is defined in title 59.1, chapter 24.2 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, (a listing of these inspectors is available at NSF International <http://www.nsf.org/Certified/OWWI/Listings.asp?PhysStateList=VIRGINIA&>), or
- (iv) Employed by the system manufacturer or designated by the system manufacturer as an authorized service provider, as demonstrated by evidence acceptable to the health department (available from the LCHD).

The inspection report shall be filed electronically with the LCHD by the inspector using a Loudoun County Non-Conventional Inspection form, available on the VOWRA Septic System Information Management program (Carmody Data Systems). A copy of the completed inspection report should be maintained by the owner.



Loudoun County Health Department

P.O. Box 7000
Leesburg VA 20177-7000



Environmental Health
Phone: 703 / 777-0234
Fax: 703/771-5023

Community Health
Phone: 703/777-0236
Fax: 703/ 771-5393

In addition, as the system owner you should keep abreast of the state licensing, operation, and other requirements which are expected to come in effect for these systems in the future. The Virginia Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association has a web site (www.vowra.org) with up-to-date information.

If there are any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Loudoun County Health Department at 703-777-0234.

Sincerely,

David Goodfriend, MD
Director