

Installation of Private Septic Systems

1. Application to Install an On-site Septic System

The Siouxland District Health Department requires that any homeowner installing or repairing a private septic system shall complete an application to install prior to installation of your system. The application is valid for one year from the date of submission. The application fee is \$200.

- Fees are non-refundable.
- Penalty Fee for Installation without a permit: It is the responsibility of the person who constructs or alters the private sewage disposal system to ensure that a permit has been issued prior to commencement of work or a penalty of twice the application fee (an additional \$200) will be assessed.
- Application must be signed by the Septic Contractor and the property owner.
- If items are not complete, the application may not be accepted.

2. Site Evaluation

The Siouxland District Health Department requires a site evaluation prior to the start of installation. It is recommended that you also select a contractor to have present during the site evaluation as well. During this time, the area for the septic system will be laid out and any setbacks determined. Verification that the selected installation site **IS** owned by the applicant and that the system will not be installed on another's property without a legal easement needs to be determined. A copy of the easement shall be attached if required.

3. Soil Evaluation

Subsurface soil absorption septic systems are considered to be the best available treatment for private wastewater. However; the right type of soil must be present for effective treatment and for system longevity. During evaluation the following needs to be determined: limiting layers, seasonal water table and if soils are suitable.

- If the contractor is unable to determine the preceding information, a percolation and bore hole test may be required.
- Flood Plain Data can be furnished to you by Woodbury County Rural Economic Development. If your property is located in a Flood Plain Zone, you will be required to also obtain a Floodplain Development Permit from Woodbury County Rural Economic Development.

4. Inspection and Approval

The contractor should contact the Siouxland District Health Department a minimum 24 hours in advance to schedule a final inspection. The system must be inspected prior to backfilling any portion of the install. A copy of the drawing/map needs to be provided at this time. Once the system is inspected and final approval given, a copy of the permit, reports and a map will be mailed or emailed to the homeowner within 7 business days.