



GRUNDY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1320 UNION STREET MORRIS, IL. 60450
(815) 941-3115

Private Sewage Disposal (PSD) and Private Water Well Guide

The Environmental Health Division staff of the Grundy County Health Department are able to assist in planning or locating your private sewage disposal system and/or water system.

As you may know, malfunctioning sewage systems can transmit diseases such as infectious hepatitis, gastroenteritis, dysentery, typhoid fever and cholera. Your home investment declines if your system malfunctions causing odorous and nuisance conditions, as well as public health safety issues for your family and your neighborhood. In addition, surrounding lakes and streams can also be polluted causing a larger environmental health safety concern.

Your water system needs to be properly located and constructed; otherwise it can enable harmful bacteria to get into your family's drinking supply. In addition, an improperly located or constructed well can also contaminate the underground aquifers that not only supply water to your family but to your neighbors as well.

In order for our staff to be of better service to you, here's what to do:

Familiarize yourself with minimum required distances listed below.

Location Components of Private Sewage Disposal System

Component Part of System	Well or Suction Line from Pump to Well	Water Supply Line (Pressure)	In-ground Swimming Pool, Lake, Stream or other body of water	Dwelling	Property Line
Feet	Feet	Feet	Feet	Feet	Feet
Building Sewer	50	10	25	----	5
Septic Tank or Aerobic Unit	50	10	25	10	5
Distribution Box	75	10	25	20	5
Subsurface Seepage Field or Sandfilter	75	25	25	20	5

*** These distances are for clay and loam soils only. The distances for sand and other types of soil shall be determined by the Health Department.**

Application Guidelines

- Fill in as many of the items on either application as possible. Please attach a copy of your building plans and a survey of your lot.
- Attach a scaled diagram of your lot, house sewer line, home and other proposed structures. Please include distances to all lot lines. Show any and all buried utility lines and easements. (Be as accurate as you can, since this will become your septic and well permit and also a permanent record on file and will be used by your contractor when installing the system.) You should be able to complete everything except the area titled as septic system. This section will be completed by your septic contractor after they receive the soil evaluation report. **Incomplete or poor diagrams will NOT be accepted.**
- At your lot, a current soil evaluation must be conducted by a Soil Classifier of the ISCA or ARCPACS (please see attached list). The soil evaluation gives you and our staff an appraisal of your soils absorption capacity as well as specific characteristics of the soil. The ***Subdivision Ordinance*** has additional regulations for PSD systems in new subdivisions. *The Health Department is discouraging surface discharge systems because an E.P.A. discharge permit and annual testing may be required in the near future.*
- The homeowner, septic contractor, and well contractor must complete some sections the their respective applications. Be sure to fill in the PIN# or tax I.D. # (if a PIN # has not been assigned, indicate if you are using a partial PIN #). **The home owner must initial and sign the septic application.**
- When the application is completed and before the permit is issued the applicable **permit fees must be paid**. When your permit application is approved by one of our staff, you will receive up a copy of the permit. Copies will also be provided to the contractors.
- Contact the Health Department to schedule an appointment 48 hours prior to the PSD system installation/ well drill in order to schedule an inspection.
- The health department will conduct and inspection of the water well once it is complete along with collecting water samples for bacteria and nitrates.
- Contact the Health Department for information regarding the maintenance of your PSD and water supply systems. Since the life of your PSD system depends on how it is maintained, proper maintenance can make it last longer. The septic tank or aerobic tank must be maintained and pumped periodically by a licensed septic pumper. Your drinking water should be tested every year. Sample bottles and instructions can be obtained from the Health Department.

**** PLEASE CALL THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT AT 815-941-3115. In order to save you time and to ensure someone will be available to review the plans with you.**

Private Sewage Disposal Drawing instructions

To ensure a timely and effective health department review of private sewage disposal system applications and/or well permit applications please submit plans drawn to scale. Include specifications necessary to fully describe these utilities as follows:

For the private sewage disposal system:

É Include the precise location and assigned number of each soil boring.

É Include lot boundaries, street names, and easements on the property and within seventy-five feet of the private sewage disposal system.

É Identify driveways, accessory buildings, swimming pools, parking areas, buried lawn sprinkling systems, underground utility services, patios, slabs, additions to the original structure or any other structure that limits free access to the system for maintenance, servicing or proper operation.

É Identify all water lines within fifty feet of the private sewage disposal system.

É Identify the locations of all existing and proposed wells on the property and within seventy-five feet of the property.

É Include all elevations necessary to describe the sewage flow to and through the private sewage disposal system. The proposed grade of the system shall be provided. Deviation from the proposed grade may require further review and delay approval.

É Include existing and proposed finished grade topography.

É Include the location of any body of water, drainage ditch, retention area, flood plain, wetlands, and easements of any other surface water within one hundred feet of system (check with the subdivision developer or Grundy County Planning Building and Zoning for the accepted engineering plans). The bottom of the seepage trench must be above the water elevation of any stream or body of water.

Soil Classifiers

Below is a list of Certified Soil Classifiers who frequently work in and around the Grundy County area. The Grundy County Health Department in no way guarantees, endorses or recommends any particular individual. Additional names may be obtained online or at www.illinoissoils.org.

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