

Van Wert County Household Sewage Treatment System Contractor Program Update

Van Wert County Health Department

November 24, 2009

Annual Registration Renewal

It is again time to renew your annual registration. Due to a poorly-timed fee adjustment, the installer registration fee will increase on January 1, 2010. All other fees will remain the same as they were for 2009. The fees for 2010 are listed below:

Installer Registration (renew before 1-1-10)....	\$95.00
Installer Registration (renew on/after 1-1-10)..	\$110.00
Service Provider Registration.....	\$40.00
Septage Hauler Registration.....	\$40.00
Septage Hauler Vehicle Permit.....	\$25.00

In order to obtain a valid registration to work in any of the above categories in Van Wert County in 2010, the following items must be submitted to the Health Department:

- ✓ Your completed application(s)
- ✓ Copy of surety bond for each category in which you are seeking registration (\$25,000 for installers and service providers, \$10,000 for haulers)
- ✓ Proof of continuing education for installers and service providers (certificates are already on file for those who attended this year's meeting in Van Wert).
- ✓ Appropriate fee(s)

No registration can be granted until all of the above items have been received. Contractors who operate without the required registration do so at the risk of having enforcement action taken against them, up to and including prosecution. Contact the Health Department for more information.

Benefits of Early Renewal

Although the registration time frame coincides with the calendar year, contractors are not required to renew in January. Instead, registration is simply required before the contractor performs work in Van Wert County during a given calendar year.

Contractors are once again encouraged to renew their registrations promptly in order to stay informed on any program updates which are conveyed to registered contractors through mass mailings as needed. **An added benefit of early renewal is that each currently registered contractor is included in a list that is distributed on request to individuals who are seeking the services of a contractor. This list is also posted on the Van Wert County Health Department website and updated periodically.**

Finally, for 2010 an additional benefit to installers renewing prior to January 1, 2010 is a \$15.00 savings on the annual registration fee.

E-mail List

An e-mail list has been created to allow for quicker and more efficient sharing of Sewage Treatment System program updates and information on upcoming training opportunities. Contractors and other interested parties who would like to receive program updates via e-mail should send their e-mail address to jmenchhofer@vanwertcountyhealth.org. Contractors who are on the e-mail list but are not currently registered will continue to receive e-mail updates.

Ohio Septic Forum

The Ohio Septic Forum is currently being developed and is available for use online. This discussion forum is intended for anyone interested in onsite sewage treatment to be able to ask questions and share ideas and information with others. This forum is open to regulators, contractors, septic system owners and other interested parties. I hope you will take a few minutes to check out this forum, and I hope you will also sign up and participate! You can visit the forum at www.ohiosepticforum.com.

Vehicle Inspections

Septage haulers are asked to contact our office at this time to schedule an inspection of their vehicle(s) **prior to January 1, 2010**. A certificate of registration will be issued after all applications and required documentation have been received and an inspection has been made. **Registration is required for all vehicles used to pump and haul the contents of septic tanks and/or portable toilets.**

During the “Off Season”

Winter often brings weather that slows septic system work and other excavating work to a crawl. This is the perfect time for installers to catch up on as-built drawings that may still be due from recent system installations. Each installer who has as-built drawings due recently received a notice including a list of jobs for which drawings are due. **As-built submissions must be kept up to date as a condition of installer registration. This requirement will be strictly enforced in 2010.**

Another way to capitalize on times when routine work is slow is to use this time to do your “homework” for future installations. By completing site and soil evaluations, system layouts and system installation plans during the winter and early spring, you can be prepared to begin one or more system installations as soon as the soil dries out in the spring

Educational Opportunities

Enclosed with this program update is a list of a variety of upcoming training events that are sure to offer an opportunity for contractors to increase their knowledge of current onsite wastewater treatment practices while earning continuing education credit toward registration renewal.

The 2010 Van Wert County Winter Household Sewage Treatment System Contractor Meeting is currently in the very early stages of planning. Possible topics for discussion include regulatory update, presentation of specific pre-treatment options, NPDES-compliant discharging system options, Enviro-Septic update and review of design plan and as-built requirements. The meeting will most likely be held in February. More information will be sent out as it becomes available. If you have an idea about something you would like to see included in the meeting agenda, contact Jason Menchhofer.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or comments regarding the contents of this newsletter or Health Department requirements pertaining to household sewage systems, please feel free to contact:

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