

# Van Wert County Household Sewage Treatment System Contractor Program Update

Van Wert County Health Department

November 30, 2010

## Annual Registration Renewal

It is again time to renew your annual registration. All registration fees will remain the same as they were for 2010. The fees are listed below:

Installer Registration .....	\$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 2011, the following items must be submitted to the Health Department:**

- ✓ Your completed application(s)
- ✓ Surety bond for each category in which you are seeking registration (\$25,000 for installers and service providers, \$10,000 for haulers)
- ✓ Proof of three hours 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 must be renewed before the contractor performs work in Van Wert County during a given calendar year.

Contractors are, however, 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.**

## Continuing Education

The Van Wert County Household Sewage Treatment System Regulations require that all installers and service providers complete at least three hours of continuing education annually. This requirement can be met by attending the annual winter contractor meeting held in Van Wert.

Enclosed with this program update is a list of a variety of upcoming training opportunities that are sure to help contractors to increase their knowledge of current onsite wastewater treatment practices while earning continuing education credit toward registration renewal. Contractors who have not completed at least three hours of continuing education in 2010 are encouraged to make use of this resource. **Contractor registrations will not be renewed until the required continuing education has been completed.**

## New State Sewage Rules

During the summer of 2010 the state legislature enacted the new version of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3718, most of which was previously rescinded in July of 2007. ORC 3718 authorizes the adoption of new statewide sewage treatment system rules, and specifies that the rules can not become effective any

sooner than **January 1, 2012**. I am engaged in this process as a local health department representative on the Sewage Treatment System Rule Advisory Committee. This committee is in the very early stages of examining the many important aspects of sewage treatment regulation and providing advice to Ohio Department of Health staff regarding proposed rule language. I plan to keep local contractors informed by sending out e-mail updates as the rule making process moves forward.

## As-Built Records

After each new system is inspected, an as-built record must be submitted to the health department before the system can be approved. Installers who have not yet submitted as-built drawings for completed systems will receive a separate notice along with this newsletter. **As-built submissions must be kept up to date as a condition of installer registration. (Installer registrations will not be renewed until all outstanding as-built records have been received.)**

## 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.**



## E-mail List

E-mail allows 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 can do so by sending their e-mail addresses to [jmenchhofer@vanwertcountyhealth.org](mailto: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 has been up and running for over a year now. 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, **and it's free!!** 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](http://www.ohiosepticforum.com).

## 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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