

Van Wert County Household Sewage Treatment System Contractor Program Update

Van Wert County Health Department

December 2, 2011

Annual Registration Renewal

It is again time to renew your annual registration. Registration fees remain the same again this year. 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:

- ✓ Completed application(s) for any and all applicable registration categories.
- ✓ Surety bond for each applicable registration category (\$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 the 2011 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.

Although the registration time frame coincides with the calendar year, contractors are not required to renew in January. At a minimum, 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 as additional contractors are added to the list.**

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 other 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 are encouraged to make use of this resource, regardless of whether they have already completed at least three hours of continuing education in 2011. **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.

The Sewage Treatment System Rule Advisory Committee is charged with providing input on various aspects of the rules as the first draft is prepared. The progress made by the committee to date indicates that a realistic estimate of the effective date of the new rules would be January 1, 2013. The time frame should begin to become clearer as the rule-writing process draws to a close in early to mid-2012.

Once a complete draft of the rules has been released, there will be opportunities for public comment on the new rules. Van Wert County registered contractors will be notified when these opportunities are available. Anyone interested in looking at preliminary draft language of selected rule sections that have already been reviewed by the Rule Advisory Committee can do so at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/eh/sewage/sewrules.aspx>. The draft rules are found under the heading "Draft Rules for Review".

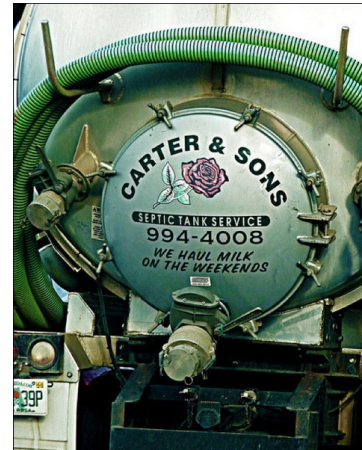
As-Built Records

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, 2012**. 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.

Contractors who are on the e-mail list but are not currently registered will continue to receive e-mail updates.

Questions?

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