



HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

Our mission is to promote and protect the health of the people of Lake County through education and the enforcement of public health laws

Guide for Existing System Evaluation

An Existing System Evaluation is sometimes requested as part of a loan application process. The purpose of this evaluation is to determine on an individual basis whether existing septic systems are functional and meet minimum standards of performance established by Lake County Rules.

Items required to process your application:

1. Completed application form and fee:

Please make sure your application is complete. Incomplete applications will be returned. **Lab fees are additional. See also well water testing guidelines.**

2. If your property is remote or hard to find, please describe in writing how to find it or provide a detailed map and identify the entrance to your property by posting the address number.

3. Site preparation:

Site preparation includes demonstrating the location of your septic tank(s). You will be provided a written checklist "Existing System Evaluation Guide for Septic Systems" to prepare for inspection/evaluation.

4. Well water testing:

If requested by the applicant, an inspector will obtain a water sample from an outside spigot and have the sample evaluated by an approved laboratory (using chain of custody). The laboratory will be evaluated for the presence of coliform and fecal coliform/E. coli.

5. Minimum performance criteria:

There must not be any surfacing/discharge of effluent directly onto the ground surface. There must be positive flow from the septic tank with no backup to the tank or house plumbing during high groundwater conditions. There is an adequately sized septic tank for the structure being served. The septic tank must be accessible and serviceable. The septic tank must be watertight and constructed of approved materials.

**HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION:
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Existing System Evaluation Guide for Septic Systems

Items required to process your application:

1. Completed application form and fee: Please make sure your application is complete. Incomplete applications will be returned.
2. If your property is remote or hard to find, please also describe in writing how to find it. 3. A detailed site plan: Please draw a site plan from actual measurements that show the location of all buildings, roads, driveways, property lines, easements, springs, wells, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, drainage areas and other physical features. Make sure you show the location of the septic tank, distribution box or drop boxes and leachlines. Please ensure the site plan is "to scale".
4. Location of existing system: If required by the inspector:
 - Uncover the septic tank lids. (Do not remove the lids.)
 - Uncover the distribution box or drop boxes.
 - Stake the ends of the leachlines, if known.
 - **If the system was installed under a permit and has received a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion, call Environmental Health Division before uncovering it.**
5. Other information: Please include your name, address, and assessors parcel number on all maps and drawings that you submit.

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