

SEPTIC SYSTEM FAQ'S

1. What are the **regulations** for septic systems?
 - N.J.A.C. 7:9A STANDARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL SUBSURFACE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS
2. How can I check the septic system information of a property? (Number of bedrooms, age of septic system, type of system)
 - Review the Health Department's file. You can do so by filling out an OPRA request through the local municipality.
3. I am selling my house. What do I do about my current septic system?
 - 2012 Septic Code requires cesspools to be updated at realty transfer.
 - A septic inspection may be performed by a private company if you are not sure of the current status of the septic system.
 - Start the CCO (Continued Certificate of Occupancy) process with your local building department office.
4. I have a well on my property. What is required at realty transfer?
 - The well must be tested in accordance with the Private Well Testing Act Regulations NJAC 7:9E. Results should be sent to your local health department or septics@co.bergen.nj.us
5. My septic system was inspected and I received a non-compliant letter from Bergen County Department of Health Services.
 - If ALTERATION is marked, contact an engineer.
 - If REPAIR is marked, contact a licensed septic contractor. (Check with your local board of health secretary for a list of licensed contractors approved in each town.)
6. I am having a new system installed. When will final Health Department approval be given?
 - Once all permits are pulled, all inspections are performed, and the engineer provides the As-Built and Certificate of Compliance to the local Board of Health office, CCO sign-off will be given.
7. I am waiting on my CCO application. How will I know when it is ready?
 - Your local building department will contact you when the application is approved and will schedule the inspection.
8. Where do I submit my building or septic plans?
 - Submit septic plans to your Local Board of Health office.
 - Building plans should be submitted to both the Building Department and the local Board of Health office. (The same documentation is required for both offices and fee may be required).

9. I would like a **status update** on plans I submitted to the Board of Health.

- All plans are reviewed in the order in which they are received.
- By code, the department has 30 days to review the plans.
- Plan review expediting cannot be granted under any circumstances.

10. I need a demo permit. What do I need to provide to the Board of Health office?

- A permit must be issued from the local Board of Health office to abandon your septic.
- Once the permit is filed, an inspection must be scheduled.
- Pumping receipts must be submitted.
- Once complete, documentation will be sent to the Building Dep't for demo permit to be issued.

11. Can a Conditional C.O. (Certificate of Occupancy) be issued?

- Check with your local code enforcement office (Building Dep't).
- The Health Department does not issue Conditional C.O.'s.

12. What are the code setbacks for pools, decks, and additions?

- See septic code - N.J.A.C. 7:9A STANDARDS FOR INDIVIDUAL SUBSURFACE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS – Table 4.3
- Rule of thumb for deck footing access and above ground pools is 5 feet.

For additional questions, you may contact your local Board of Health office or the Bergen County Department of Health Services at 201-634-2730.