
Guidance for On-Site Sewage Disposal System Designs and Site Plans

Before a Sanitary Construction Permit (Septic Permit) can be issued by the Somerset County Health Department (SCHD), a Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) registered On-Site Wastewater Professional must submit an acceptable sewage disposal **system design and site plan** to the Health Department for approval. The design and site plan should include the requirements listed in the Minimum Specifications as issued by the SCHD, and they should be submitted to the Health Department as **separate documents**.

For the On-Site Sewage Disposal Design, it should include the following information:

Property and Installer Information

- Address of Property where System will be Installed
- Installer Name, Address and Contact Information
- Designer Name, Address and Contact Information
- Type of System and Gallons Per Day
- Date Design Submitted

System Information

- Trench Depth, Trench Width, Trench Fill Material
- Number of Laterals and Length of Each Lateral, Distance Between Laterals
- Pipe Type and Diameter, Pipe Elevation
- Filter Material, Cap Material and Amount, Top Cover Material and Seed

Component Information

- Septic Tank Type, Tank Manufacturer, Tank Size
- Pump Chamber Size, Pump Size/Rating, Pump Dose
- Distribution Box Type/Method and Material

For the On-Site Sewage Disposal Site Plan, it should include the following information:

A Labeled Drawing or Site Plan

- The drawing/site plan may be hand drawn (such as on graph paper); added to surveyed site plan, boundary survey or recorded plat; overlaid onto a satellite image (such as Google Maps or Maryland's Merlin Online); or completed using an acceptable computer-aided design (CAD) program
- SCHD cannot at this time accept drawings/site plans generated by AI tools
- It must be labeled with the property address; installer name; and the type of system
- Distances must be marked, including the general size of the structure; well to structure; well to tank; well to drainfield; structure to tank; structure to drainfield; tank or pump chamber to drainfield; trench length, width, depth and spacing
- Neighboring wells and the distances to them should also be included
- Property lines, right-of-ways, driveways, roads and structures must be indicated