

Hendricks County Health Department

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT URGES HOMEOWNERS TO MAINTAIN THEIR SEPTIC SYSTEMS

HENDRICKS COUNTY – SepticSmart Week is an annual event focused on educating homeowners and communities on the proper care and maintenance of their septic systems. Maintaining your septic system saves you money, protects your property value, and most importantly, protects you and your neighbor's well water and health.

"We all benefit from a safe and healthy environment, so we appreciate the efforts of septic system owners to do their part to keep Hendricks County's surface and groundwater free from dangerous wastewater contamination," says Julie Haan, Director of Environmental Health at the Health Department.

Homeowners with septic systems are urged to follow these tips:

- Have your system inspected every three years by a qualified professional
- Have your septic tank pumped, when necessary, generally every three to five years
- Avoid pouring harsh products (e.g., oils, grease, chemicals, paint, medications) down the drain
- Discard non-degradable products in the trash (e.g., floss, disposable wipes, cat litter) instead of flushing them
- Keep cars and heavy vehicles parked away from the drainfield and tank
- Repair leaks and use water efficient fixtures to avoid overloading the system
- Maintain plants and vegetation near the system to ensure roots do not block drains
- Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low- or phosphate-free

For more general information about maintaining a septic system, visit the EPA's Septic Smart website, <https://www.epa.gov/septic>. To find permit information on a property's septic system visit http://hcapps.co.hendricks.in.us/DWLookup/DW_Parcel_Search.asp. Enter property owner name, address, or tax ID number. Scroll down the page for available permitting information. For more information about septic system maintenance and repair in Hendricks County, contact the Hendricks County Health Department at (317) 745-9217.