

VILLAGE OF NORTH BARRINGTON
111 OLD BARRINGTON ROAD
NORTH BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS 60010
OFFICE: (847)381-6000 FAX: (847)381-3303

OPERATING PERMIT—MAINTENANCE REPORT
INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

1. OWNER (Please PRINT)

Name _____
Telephone # _____
Address _____
Email Address _____

2. ADDRESS OF SYSTEM

Address _____

3. RESIDENCE INFORMATION

bedrooms _____ # dens/studies _____ circle all that apply: basement? (Y N) shower/tub in basement? (Y N)

4. EXISTING SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (To be filled in by inspection company)

Type of system: _____ Location: _____
Septic tank capacity: _____ gallons Seepage field type/Condition: _____
Date tank was last pumped: _____ Condition of tank: OK _____ Other _____ Explain _____
Effluent level: OK _____ Other _____
Condition of baffles: OK _____ Other _____
Lift Station: Yes _____ No _____ Alarm Functioning: Yes _____ No _____
Aerobic Treatment Unit: Yes _____ No _____ Alarm Functioning: Yes _____ No _____
Aerator? Yes _____ No _____ Type: _____ Size: _____
Current Service Contract: Yes _____ No _____ Date of Last Service: _____
Service Provider: _____
Evidence of malfunction or defect with system: No _____ Yes _____ (explain) _____
Corrective measures completed: _____

In consideration of this application and any attached documents being made a part hereof, and the issuance of a permit, I/we will conform to the regulations set forth in the applicable ordinances of the Village of North Barrington. I/we also agree that any work performed under said permit will be in accordance with the documents which accompany this application, except for such changes as may be directed in the permit issuance. I/we further state that the information provided herein is correct to the best of my/our knowledge.

Inspection Company: _____

Address: _____ Phone # _____

Name of Inspector (PRINT): _____ Date of Inspection: _____

5. Signature of Inspector: _____

6. Signature of Property Owner/Resident: _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PERMIT # ISSUED _____ BY: _____ DATE: _____ FEE PAID: \$ _____

PERMIT DENIED: _____ BY: _____ DATE: _____

Reason(s) for Denial: _____

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INSTRUCTIONS

- #1. - #3. To be filled in by homeowner. Use address line under #1 if the homeowner does not reside at the residence address under #2. If the homeowner and the resident are the same, please write in "same as above" for #2.
- #4. To be filled out by your service contractor/inspector.
- #5. Signature of inspector/contractor.
- #6. Signature of resident/homeowner.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How does a septic system work? *Human waste and grey water discharges (laundry, showers, and lavatories) flow into the septic tank. Here, millions of bacteria break down the biological waste just as they would in nature, only in an accelerated or controlled environment. Over time, the bacteria break down the biological matter, resulting in the solid layer, or sludge, the mid layer of clear water (not clean), and the top layer of fats, oil, grease and scum. In an aerated system, the bacteria are in an optimum environment with plenty of oxygen to help them digest and break down the biological matter. When the system air is turned off, the contents in the tank settle into the three layers, just as in a traditional septic tank. The middle layer of clear water (not clean) is sent to the drainage field where the clear water percolates through the soil and is naturally filtered and cleaned as it migrates down through the soil, returning the water to the environment. This biological process cannot function properly if overloaded with chemicals, undigested matter or other sources of wastewater, which increases the work for the bacteria. This is why a professional must size your tank and determine the appropriate system for your household needs.*
2. How often should I pump the tank? *Pumping frequency depends on several factors: the type of system; the number of people living in the house; special events that may require pumping; a malfunctioning system. There are enough bacteria in a pumped out tank to restart the biological process as the tank is used again. You do not need to add anything.*
3. Are there things I shouldn't put in my tank/system? *Yes. A good rule of thumb is, if it hasn't passed through you, it should not be put in the septic system. This includes diapers, baby wipes, sanitary products, pads or tampons, paper towels, garbage disposal waste, undigested food waste, grass clippings, RV tank waste, used or unused cat litter; salt discharge from a water softener, roof drain runoff or rainwater, waste oil or chemicals.*
4. Can I use household cleaners, i.e. bleach? Will it hurt my system? *It is recommended to use household cleaners that are labeled safe for use in septic systems. General household cleaners will not hurt your system if used as directed. If you have an accidental spill of a cleaner (caustic such as bleach, or acid such as vinegar, or oily products such as peanut oil), you should have enough bacteria to rebound from such a spill. Be sure to check your tank for any problems. Oily discharges can clog inlet and outlet pipes and coat mechanical systems in aerator systems.*
5. Should I use septic system additives? *No. There is no need to add anything other than the waste from your home to keep your bacteria healthy.*
6. Are there special detergents/toilet paper I should I use? *Use detergents that do not contain phosphates as these will eventually end up in the environment. Toilet tissue should be a product meant for septic systems. The fluffy or thick and soft toilet tissue products usually do not disintegrate very well. Likewise, facial tissue, paper towels, baby wipes, etc., should not be flushed to your system.*
7. Should my storm water, downspouts, water softener, be connected to my septic system? *No. Clear water discharges should not be directed to the system. The salt from a water softener should NEVER be discharged to your septic system.*
8. How do I know when/if my system is not working properly? *You may notice a continuous wet spot, an unpleasant out-house-type smell, water not going down the drain, floor drains backing up, toilets slow to flush/not flushing, etc.*
9. What can I put on top of my septic field? *Only turf grass should be planted over the drainage field—no plantings, trees, or shrubs on the field. Perimeter plantings are OK if they can handle the soil. NEVER allow vehicles, construction or heavy equipment, especially when wet, on the drainage field. NEVER build decks or pools over the grassy field. Underground sprinkler systems CANNOT be within 25' of field.*
10. Why does my grass grow in stripes? *The discharge from your system, or effluent, is high in nitrogen and other nutrients. Effluent will act as a natural fertilizer as the grass absorbs some of the effluent. The stripes follow the drainage pipes that are about 18 inches beneath the grass. This area will also melt snow faster as the effluent is usually warm.*
11. Why doesn't the Village install sewers and a municipal treatment plant? *Areas of North Barrington that are on private septic systems are typically in rolling terrain, with topography that doesn't provide for a main collection system with gravity sewers. The cost to design, install and maintain such a collection system of sewers and lift stations in our Village would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Regular preventative maintenance of your private septic system will ensure the safety of your family, the environment, and will maintain the rural, natural setting of North Barrington we all enjoy.*