

ALL HOMES IN NORTH BARRINGTON HAVE A SEPTIC SYSTEM

Except for homes in the Wynstone subdivision, every home in the Village is connected to an on-site individual wastewater treatment system, commonly called a septic system. All your household waste from water fixtures, such as toilets, sinks, washing machines, and dishwashers, goes into this system, not a public sewer.

Two main components make up this system:

1. A **pretreatment tank system**. The tank system may include a septic tank, aerator, and a lift station. The lift station and aerator are not part of all systems but require electricity and maintenance. In the septic tank, oils and greases rise to the surface, while solids settle to the bottom.
2. A **disposal field**. The liquid between the oils and grease and the solids at the bottom, called effluent, is discharged into the **disposal field**. The **disposal field** can be a buried trench system or an above-ground mound system.

The size of the septic system is based on the number of bedrooms and the soil conditions at the disposal field site. The Village requires that an additional soil area equal in size to the original field be preserved in case the original field fails. Typical failures include ponded sewage on the ground surface, pump failure in the lift station, and sewage backup into the home.

The **property owners are solely responsible for maintaining their system**.

Maintenance usually consists of having your tank system pumped out every 2-5 years. Aerators must always have a maintenance contract in place. Inspections of the aerators by a qualified contractor are conducted twice a year, and repairs are made as needed.

The above is a brief description of the waste-disposal system on your property. An in-depth article will be posted on the website soon. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Village Health Officer, Natalie Karney, at 815-482-0865.