

MANDATORY SEPTIC RE-INSPECTION PROGRAM

Working together we can protect our watershed resources. Your participation in this program will ensure a safe home with healthy groundwater and surface water and the continued enjoyment of a clean, healthy waterfront environment for generations to come.

The Mississippi-Rideau Septic System Office (MRSSO) staff are registered Building Official Inspectors who will:

- identify where your septic tank, bed, pumps and other parts are found
- assess the health of your septic system and identify any issues before they become expensive problems
- recommend when and how often to pump your specific system
- explain the importance of a well-functioning system that safeguards your family's health and protects groundwater and surface water quality
- help you understand replacement system options and direct you to grants available to help fund a replacement system

This mandatory program provides re-inspections on earth pit privies and composting toilets, greywater pits, cesspools, septic tanks and leaching fields and holding tanks.

5 Easy Steps to the Septic Re-Inspection Program

Step 1 – Complete the re-inspection questionnaire

The re-inspection questionnaire will be mailed to those who are required to participate as part of their landowner package. You can submit it by fax to 613-253-0122, by email to septic-inquiries@mvc.on.ca or by mail at MRSSO 10970 Hwy. 7, Carleton Place, ON, K7C 3P1. You can also complete it online at mvc.on.ca/mrссо-questionnaire.

Step 2 – Scheduled appointment

A scheduled appointment is part of your landowner package. To arrange a different date or time, please contact our office.

Step 3 – Dig your lids

The MRSSO asks that you expose both lids on your septic tank (most tanks have two). If you are unable to dig out your lids, there will be a \$40 (\$20/lid) maximum charge for the MRSSO to assist in locating and excavating the septic tank lids. This fee will be invoiced upon completion of the re-inspection. No cost will be incurred if excavation is not required.

The MRSSO will re-cover the tank when the inspection is completed (at no cost) unless it is determined that a pump-out is required. The tank inspection includes a visual inspection of the tank components and measurement of sludge and scum in the tank. **Please do not pump tank before the re-inspection.**

Step 4 – Inspection

The septic re-inspection will include the following:

- Location of all system elements
- Measurement of separation distances to key lot features
- Visual inspection of tank structure
- Measurement of tank contents – **Please do not pump tank before the re-inspection.**
- Visual inspection of bed
- Briefing the homeowner on proper system maintenance and operation.

Step 5 – Review your Re-inspection Report

A copy of the septic re-inspection report will be left for the property owner.

Our primary goal is to educate property owners about their septic system and any deficiencies it may have. Our secondary goal is to ensure that unsafe systems are reported to the appropriate Authority, based on the requirements of Part 8 of the *Ontario Building Code*. Staff will let you know of any funding assistance that may be available for septic replacement.

Property owners can expect the re-inspection, results, and all inquiries to be dealt with in a professional manner.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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MRSSO Re-inspection
Program Coordinator
613-253-0006 ext. 256
septic-inquiries@mvc.on.ca

