


# “Good Neighbor” Septic System Inspection and Maintenance Outreach Program

With funding support from the Lake Michigan Coastal Program, NW Indiana not-for-profit group Save the Dunes, developed and piloted a locally based septic system outreach and education program in conjunction with the NW Indiana Septic System Coordination Work Group. The following images and outreach materials will be evaluated for effectiveness and ongoing use in the Lake Michigan Coastal watershed.

*Sandy*




“Septic System Maintenance Depends On YOU!”




**SIMPLE TIPS TO PROTECT AND MAINTAIN YOUR SYSTEM**

- *Have your tank pumped and system inspected by certified and licensed professionals every 3 - 5 years.*
- *Don't pour grease, fats, or harmful chemicals like paints and solvents down your drain. They can clog or harm your system.*
- *Don't flush non-degradable items such as diapers, wipes or feminine hygiene products.*
- *Don't drive or park on your drainfield. Plant only grass.*
- *Fix household leaks and use water efficiently to avoid overtaxing your system.*
- *Contact your local health department for any questions you may have. They're here to help!*

*Dune*



“Pump and Inspect your Septic System Every 3 - 5 Years.”

[www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich](http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich)

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Funding for this sign was provided in part by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Lake Michigan Coastal Program

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR  
MY SEPTIC SYSTEM  
IS PUMPED  
EVERY  
3-5 YEARS.**



**www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich**  
**SEPTIC SYSTEM AWARENESS WEEK**



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For Simple Tips postcards, “Good Neighbor” yard signs, and other outreach materials on septic system inspection and maintenance, contact the Lake Michigan Coastal Program Office at the Indiana Dunes State Park: (219) 250-5402.

## Save the Date: EPA SepticSmart Week 2017



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR**  
**SepticSmart**  
**Week 2017**  
September 18-22, 2017

**SepticSmart Week** is an annual event focused on educating homeowners and communities on the proper care and maintenance of their septic systems.

Learn more about the core messages of SepticSmart Week:

- Think at the Sink
- Don't Overload the Commode
- Don't Strain Your Drain
- Shield Your Field
- Test Your Drinking Water Well

Visit [www.epa.gov/septic](http://www.epa.gov/septic) for more homeowner resources and information about SepticSmart Week 2017. Be a good neighbor and do your part to be SepticSmart!

**septicSMART**  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**EPA**