



April 7, 2025

Public Notice

Statement to combat possible misinformation regarding required sewer connections to the Hamilton County Regional Utility District.

The Hamilton County Regional Utility District “the District” wishes to clarify sanitary sewer connection requirement by providing the following Q and A fact sheet.

Question: Just because I live within the Utility District boundaries, does that mean I am required to obtain an exemption or hook up to the sewer?

Answer: *NO - You will only be required to obtain an exemption or hook up to the sewer if the sewer main is installed along your property line, you received a letter from the District that sewer is available to your property, and your home is no more than 300 feet away from the sewer main.*

Question: The District HAS NOT installed a sewer line near my property or notified me that sewer is available to my home. What do I need to do now?

Answer: *Nothing at all*

Question: The District HAS installed a sewer in front of my property. I have received a notification the sewer is available for my property and my home is within 300 feet of the sewer main. Now what?

Answer:

Step 1 - Contact the District to notify us if you intend to connect or seek an connection exemption.

Step 2 – If seeking a connection exemption submit a Sewer Connection Exemption Application to the Hamilton County Health Department for review.



Step 3 – If required, contract with a septic installer who is approved by the Hamilton County Health Department who will perform a septic system inspection.
Step 4 – Hamilton County Health Department will review the inspection report and may approve the exemption or require repair if the system is not functioning properly, or require connection to the sewer system if it is determined your septic system is failing.

Question: How long does that exemption last?

Answer: *The first exemption is for a period of 10 years. After which you may complete the exemption process again and receive a 5-year exemption. After that exemption expires you may complete the process again and receive another 5-year exemption for a total of 20 years of exemptions.*

Question: What happens after my 20 years of exemptions expire?

Answer: *Unless Indiana Code changes the requirements, you will be required to connect to the sewer system.*

Question: Do I also have to connect to water if I am required to connect to the sewer system?

Answer: *No. Connection to the water system is voluntary.*

Question: If I want to connect to the water system for my home, can I still use my well for watering my garden, lawn or livestock?

Answer: *Yes. However, you will have to disconnect the plumbing from the well to the house. There can be no “cross connection” between your well and the public water system.*



Below is an excerpt from the US EPA regarding residential septic systems.

<https://www.epa.gov/septic/frequent-questions-septic-systems>

“How long does a septic system last?”

- The lifespan of a septic system depends on the material it is made of, the design, installation, service and exposure conditions, and maintenance of the system. Typically, a septic tank made of concrete may last 50 years or more, although older tanks may not be as well constructed as newer tanks. Tanks made from other materials, such as plastic may last a similar timeframe. See the manufacturer for projected lifespan estimates as well as strength, design, installation, and warranty information.
- If your septic system includes a pump, many pumps and controls will need to be replaced every 10 to 20 years. If you have an advanced treatment unit, check with the manufacturer for estimates of lifespan and warranty information.
- If your drainfield is more than 25 to 30 years old, the natural biomat that forms in the bottom of the trenches or beds can thicken and reduce the ability of the drainfield to properly discharge the wastewater into the ground. This can cause ponding in the drainfield, surfacing of untreated wastewater, or backing up into the septic tank and into the plumbing in the house.
- If your septic system is more than 25 to 30 years old, start planning for an upgrade before you are in an emergency situation. It is likely your system is close to its useful lifespan.”