



### **Steps to take when a new septic system must be installed:**

1. Contract with a soil scientist
2. Contract with a registered septic installer from the Grant County Health Department list (available on our website).
3. Complete and submit an application to the health department (includes a fee).
4. The health department will configure minimum requirements for the septic system.
5. Registered installer must submit required documents for the new system to the health department.
6. Installer plans will be reviewed.
7. Once plans are approved and the fee is paid a septic permit will be issued.

## **Grant County Health Department**

### **Environmental Division**

We are here to assist you and answer your questions when considering purchasing a home or property that requires a residential on-site septic system.

### **Contact Us**

Phone:  
765-651-2401, Option 1

Email:  
[environmental@grantcounty.in.gov](mailto:environmental@grantcounty.in.gov)

Website:  
[www.in.gov/localhealth/grantcounty](http://www.in.gov/localhealth/grantcounty)



## **NEW HOMEBUYERS GUIDE TO SEPTIC SYSTEMS**

**Purchasing a home is a big investment. This guide will help you with questions regarding septic systems when considering a new home or property. You want to be sure the septic system is up to date and functioning properly before deciding to buy.**



## Does the home currently have a septic system?

### There is likely a septic system if:

- The home has well water
- The home is located in a rural area
- Sanitary city sewer is not available

### To locate the septic system:

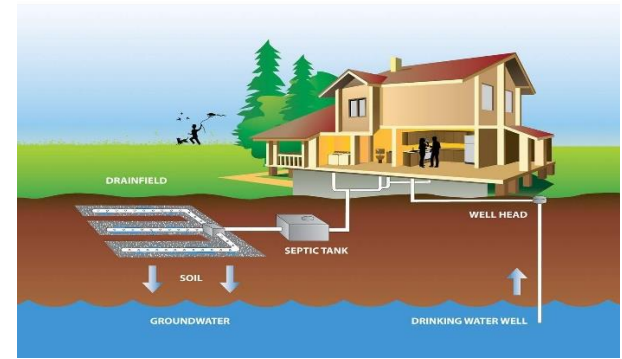
- Ask the seller or realtor for a septic inspection report or drawing
- Contact the Health Department to inquire if there is a septic system on record
- Locate caps, lids, or manhole covers on the property
- Get an inspection by a registered licensed installer/inspector

## Get the system inspected!

It is IMPORTANT to get an inspection of the septic system by a registered septic installer/inspector. Any home upgrades in the future may also require septic system upgrades.

## What should occur during a septic system inspection?

- Any available records from the local health department. This could document the age of the system
- Sludge levels and scum thickness in the tank
- Any signs of leakage from the tank
- Any signs of backup in the tank
- Overall condition of the tank
- The absorption field for signs of failure
- Location of all system components



## Inspection Complete. Now what?

If the system passes inspection, you are good to go!

Contact our office or go to [www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart](http://www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart) for best practice & guidance to keep your septic system functioning well.

## System failed inspection?

### Potential reasons:

- Ponding sewage on ground
- Sewage backing up into the home
- Connected to a public water source
- No soil absorption field
- No septic tank

**Contact our office for your next step**