

Vinton County Health Department

Environmental Health Division

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The purpose of this guide is to aide the homeowner with the process involved in site and soil evaluations and obtaining a permit.

Site and Soil Evaluations

A site and soil evaluation is needed for all new septic systems and any system that needs to be replaced or altered. You will need the following:

- A copy of the plat map, map must include actual dimensions in feet of each side of the property boundaries. You may obtain a copy at the Auditor's office or provide a recent survey. If the plat doesn't have you as being the current property owner, proof of ownership will be needed.
- Complete green application and pay the \$75 fee.
- Schedule an appointment to have someone meet us there that knows where the property boundaries are and where the proposed house is going, along with the driveway and any other pertinent site information.
- Must provide means to dig two 3' wide x 3' long x 4' deep test pits. The location of which will not be determined until the inspection.

With the \$75, a soil evaluation conducted by the health department is included. The homeowner may elect to hire a different agency for the soil evaluation. This is optional and will be the homeowner's expense. Although the health department doesn't register soil scientist, we do have a list available upon request.

After the site and soil evaluation has been completed, you will receive notification in the mail with the specifics of your system. **This does not mean that the system is approved and is ok to install.** This just gives you a starting point to work with the installer regarding the system to be installed and to determine if there is adequate room for the system and a replacement system.

Septic Permits

A septic permit is only issued **after** an approved design or layout plan has been submitted by a installed registered in Vinton County. At this time we will contact you to review the system prior to issuing the permit. Once a permit has been issued, then the system may be installed. Once the installer has completed the installation, they will call us for a final inspection. It is requested that the homeowner be present at the final inspection to allow us to review the system with you. If for some reason you cannot make the final appointment, you must schedule a time with us in the office to review the system with you before the final approval is given. You cannot operate a septic system until the final approval has been given.