

Lorain County General Health District

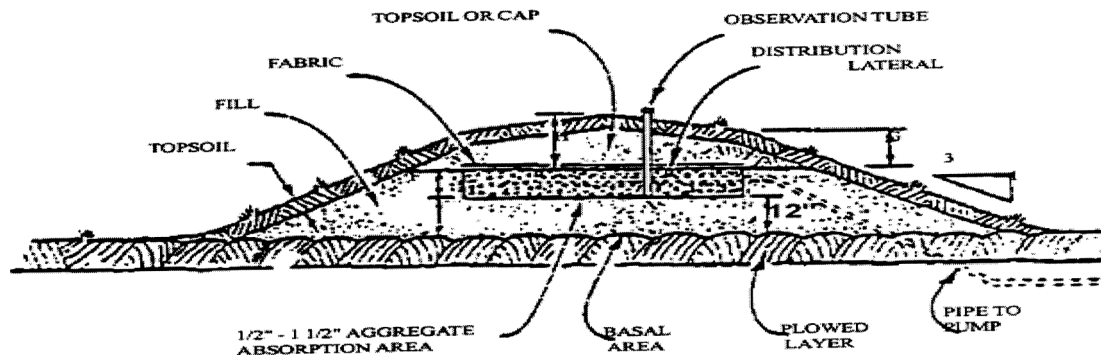
Mound Septic System



"For The Health of Us All"

Your mound is a drain field that is raised above the natural soil surface, primarily built of sand. Within the sand fill is a gravel-filled bed with a 2-inch pipe to receive and distribute effluent, and are covered with native or imported top soil to allow vegetation to be planted.

Septic or aeration tank effluent is pumped through the 2-inch pipes in controlled doses to insure uniform distribution throughout the gravel bed. The effluent leaves the pipes under low pressure through small diameter holes, and trickles downward through the gravel and into the sand. From the sand layer, the water is treated as it moves through the sand and into the native soil below the mound.



Proper Care of Your System

- **Knowing where your system is located and protecting it.**
Before you plant a garden, construct a building, or install a pool, check on the location of your system including the tanks, distribution lines and the mound.
- **Practicing water conservation and balancing your water use throughout the week to keep from overloading the system.**
The more water you use, the more the mound must treat and dispose. Do laundry over a couple of days.
- **Diverting water from surfaces such as roofs, driveways, or patios away from the mound.**
The entire mound is graded to provide for runoff. Place structures, ditches, and driveways far enough away so that water movement from the mound is not interrupted.
- **Keeping traffic, such as vehicles, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles (ATV's), heavy equipment, or livestock off your mound.**
The weight and pressure can compact the soil and damage the distribution pipes.
- **Landscaping your mound properly.**
Do not place impermeable materials over your mound. Materials such as concrete or plastic reduce evaporation and supply of air to the soil needed for proper effluent treatment. Grass is the best cover for the mound. Avoid any landscaping with plants with invasive roots, trees, or large shrubs.
- **Inspecting the mound and sides for loose soil and shrinkage.**
Add top soil in the areas that have lost soil or settled. Replant with grasses.
- **Inspecting the mound and down slope area for odors, wet spots or surfacing sewage periodically.**
Contact the Health Department for assistance.


Rev: 06/03/2015

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