



Program Overview

Maintenance Requirements for Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)

The City of Saint Paul recognizes and allows the use of Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) as an option if connection to a municipal sewage system cannot be made. Septic systems may have a potential impact on the environment and could lead to adverse health effects if the system is not operating properly. The City Ordinance regulates the proper operation and maintenance of SSTSs, including submission of inspection and pump reporting forms, every two (2) years.

Process:

Approximately sixty (60) days before the required septic submission due date (every two (2) years), a reminder notice, and forms will be mailed to the owner. The required submissions from the owners of SSTSs include the following items:

1. The "Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Maintenance Inspection Report" must be completed by a certified inspector and submitted within thirty (30) days of the inspection with a payment of \$20.00 to the Department of Safety and Inspection.
2. A Septic tank pumping report form must be completed and submitted to the Department of Safety and Inspection within thirty (30) days after pumping. Septic tanks must be pumped as needed and at least every two (2) years by a MPCA certified pumper.

In addition, if a private water well is contained on a property with an SSTS, the owner is required to complete the following:

1. A water sample from the well must be submitted to a laboratory certified by the Minnesota Department of Health for analysis every two (2) years. A Bacteriological Nitrate Testing Report must be completed and submitted within thirty (30) days of the test with a payment of \$10.00 to the Department of Safety and Inspection.

Inspection report forms and a list of certified pumpers and inspectors are included with this notice. Any questions pertaining to the operational requirements of Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) in the City of St Paul may be directed to the Plumbing section, of the Department of Safety and Inspections (651) 266-9005.