

On-Lot Sewage Management Program (OLDS PROGRAM)

The Board of Supervisors adopted an On-Lot Sewage Management Program, Ordinance 2023-01 at the September 7, 2023 business meeting.

What does this mean and why should my municipality manage my system?

When a treatment system malfunctions and discharges raw sewage onto public lands or private property or into waterways, the negative impacts are significant. Drinking water supplies can be contaminated. Pennsylvanians' health and safety are endangered. The environment we depend on is degraded. Property and community value is damaged.

For this reason, Pennsylvania cities, townships, and boroughs are required by the [Pennsylvania Sewage Facility Act of 1966](#) to manage all sewage within their borders. This includes not only public sewer systems, but also on-lot sewage treatment systems. In other words, if you have a septic system on your property, it's considered part of your local municipal infrastructure.

Just like a home and car, a septic system requires maintenance. Regular maintenance extends the longevity of the system and significantly reduces the need for repair or replacement. If maintenance is neglected, even expertly designed and installed systems can function well below capacity or fail completely.

What does a municipal sewage management program mean to me?

- Pumping the treatment tank once every four years.
- Property owner education on the operation and maintenance of a septic system.
- Registration or licensing of septage haulers and other service providers, including standard procedures.
- Inspections to ensure proper operation.

When does the OLDS program start and what is the next step?

The program will **start January 1, 2024** with the Township divided into four (4) zones.

- **ZONE 1 (Year 1) WEST OF 225 to the Western Banks of the Susquehanna River.**
- **ZONE 2 (Year 2) Clark's Valley.**
- **ZONE 3 (Year 3) Stoney Creek Valley.**
- **ZONE 4 (Year 4) Fishing Creek Valley including Front Street, Roberts Valley Road and Greggs Road areas.**

The Township will send out an initial letter and then follow up with reminders to have your system pumped depending on the zone you reside in.

If you should have any questions regarding your septic system, please contact the Sewage Enforcement Officer, Brian McFeaters, at 717-813-6492. Please leave a message.

The complete Ordinance can be found on the Township website at www.middlepaxtontwp.org.

Pumping your septic tank on a regular basis ensures optimal tank performance and prevents the absorption area from clogging and malfunctioning and contaminating the ground water, streams, and rivers in our beautiful Township and beyond.

