

SEPTIC SYSTEM PERMITTING INFORMATION

- **All septic systems require a permit, regardless of acreage or who is to perform the work.**
The property owner should contact this office to receive information on different types of septic systems, their maintenance and long-term cost, and to obtain a permit application. Permit applications are not available online or from any other source. This is intended to assist the owner in making an informed decision when choosing the type of system to install on their property. The permit application fee is \$160 for single-family residential, \$260 for all others, and is non-refundable. Permit applications expire one year from the date of application if authorization has not been issued during that time.
 - Work on the septic system **may not begin until after written authorization has been issued from this office.**
 - **Aerobic “ATU” systems are NOT required by Washington County.**
Decisions regarding system type must take the owner’s wishes into consideration. The owner may choose to install any type of system, as long as it meets code.
 - **Minimum Acreage and Small Lot Requirements for a Single Residence:**
 - **If subdivided on or after June 15, 2009** - 1.5 acres if served by a water well or a water well is on the property; 1.0 acres if served by a public water supply and no water well on property.
 - **If subdivided between January 1, 1988 and June 14, 2009** - 1.0 acres if served by a water well or a water well is on the property; 0.5 acres if served by a public water supply and no water well on property. Smaller lots require a professional design.
 - **If subdivided before January 1, 1988** – No minimum acreage. Any size lot and water supply configuration is acceptable provided all other requirements are met. A professional design may be required.
- Lot size as well as many other factors affects the amount of development feasible on a tract of land. Meeting minimum acreage requirements and/or having a professional design do not guarantee that a permit can be issued.**
- **Minimum Required Total Acreage for Multiple and/or Additional Dwellings (2 or more)**
Regardless of when the Property was Subdivided:
 - **If served by a water well or a water well is on the property;** minimum acreage equals the number of dwellings times 1.5 acres.
 - **If served by a public water supply and no water well on property;** minimum acreage equals the number of dwellings times 1 acre.
 - **Systems to be located on more than one lot/tract** require the owner to file an Affidavit to the Public (on the form provided by our office) in the County Clerk’s Office under Real Property Records stating that the properties are joined and cannot be sold separately.

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