

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SANITARY CODE AND PROPERTY TRANSFER SEPTIC SYSTEM INSPECTIONS

ROUTINE SANITARY CODE INSPECTION

1. Hire a Cayuga County certified inspector to do an inspection of the septic system. The list is on the reverse side of this instruction sheet.
2. As part of the inspection, the inspector will add dye to some of your fixtures, such as your toilet, and run 20 gallons of water per bedroom with a maximum of 100 gallons.
3. Once the inspection is completed, the inspector will turn the paperwork into the Health Department.
4. If the septic system fails the inspection, the system owner will be required to correct the violation.
5. If the septic system passes the inspection, a discharge permit will be issued.

PROPERTY TRANSFER INSPECTION

Prior to all property transfers in Cayuga County, the Sanitary Code requires that the septic system be inspected and the septic tank pumped. The septic system should be inspected prior to the pumping of the tank. If the tank is pumped first, it will be necessary to wait 30 days before the septic system can be inspected.

1. Hire a Cayuga County certified inspector to inspect your septic system. The list is on the reverse side of this instruction sheet.
2. As part of the inspection, the inspector will add dye to some of your fixtures, such as your toilet, and run 75 gallons of water per bedroom, if the home is currently occupied. *If the home is not occupied, 150 gallons of water per bedroom over a period of three days will be added.*
3. Once the inspection is completed, the inspector will turn the paperwork into the Health Department.
4. As part of a property transfer, it is also necessary that the septic tank be pumped and a “Waste Transporter Certification” form be turned into the Health Department. A list of certified Waste Haulers is available at the Environmental Health Office.
5. If the septic system fails the inspection, the system owner will be required to correct the violation.
6. If the septic system passes the inspection and proof that the tank has been pumped is submitted to the Health Department, a discharge permit will be issued.

Quality Control Program

In order to ensure that the inspections are performed properly, the Environmental Health Division of the Cayuga County Health & Human Services Department has initiated a Quality Control Program. As part of this program, Environmental Health personnel may call you and revisit the site after the inspection to discuss the service provided by the inspectors and to verify the collection of information.

Please Note

If you are due for a routine sanitary code inspection, but plan on selling your home soon, you may want to consider getting the property transfer inspection done instead of the routine inspection. The property transfer inspection is valid for one year and would count for the routine inspection.