



PUTNAM COUNTY'S

Operation and Maintenance Plan
Public Meetings

Objectives

- Define Operation and Maintenance
- Explain the Law & Regulations that mandate this requirement
- Explain the process and development of Putnam County's plan
- Explain the plan for Putnam County
- Explain what this plan means for a Putnam County resident
- Define the time line of implementation
- Provide additional information about the program

O&M Plan

- Requirement of law and regulation
- Not a voluntary program
- No targeted areas
- Allowing homeowners to have their own system on their property

6119

- Voluntary option
- Centralized sewer systems under EPA regulations
- Governed by an appointed board

Regulations and Law

- Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3718.02(A)(7)
 - *Requires health departments to develop, implement and administer maintenance requirements of STS*

- Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-29-19
 - *Requires health departments to develop a plan and implement an Operation and Maintenance Program*

Define Operation and Maintenance

- The main purpose of this plan:
 - *The current sewage treatment system (STS) is operating as designed and installed*
 - *The STS is being maintained to allow the STS to function as designed*
- The purpose of this plan is **NOT** to make a homeowner upgrade system to meet current regulations

Process and Development of Putnam County's Plan

- July 2016 - Met with stakeholders to begin discussion
- September 2016 – Continued stakeholder meeting
- November 2016 – Begin developing the plan
- January 2017 – Provided training to STS Contractors and in depth conversations with contractors concerning all aspects of O&M
- January 2017 – Finalize the draft plan and terms & conditions of an operation permit
- March 2017 – 5 public meetings
- April 2017 – Finalize Putnam County's Plan and Terms & Conditions
- June 2017 – Board of Health approve Plan and Terms & Conditions
- June – December 2017 - Creating documents, educational information, and templates, as well as rating of properties by PCHD staff.
- December 2017 – First applications for permits will be mailed
- January 2018 – Effective date of implementation

Importance

- ORC states that any system installed prior to 9-17-10 are approved systems.
- Systems must be maintained to allow the system to work as they were designed
- Lack of maintenance to a system, increases the chances of issues with the system

Goals

- **To keep your existing system** as long as it isn't causing a public health nuisance!
- Maintain system to increase longevity
- Educate homeowners about their individual system
- Find concerns before replacement is need so that a repair or remediation can occur

Putnam County's O&M Plan

- 10 Year Plan

- *There are approximately 6,800 homes*
- *~680 properties brought into the program annually*
- *How: Rating Scale of each property, except NPDE Systems (1st year)*

Scale	Age of System (permit year)	Type of System	Watershed
1	2007 – current	Non Discharging (On-site)	No Watershed
2	1950 – 2006	Discharging	Creek Watershed
3	Pre 1950's or unknown	Unknown	River Watershed

- Properties that rate the highest will be incorporated first.
 - *For example: 2720 properties rate 9. Every 4th property will be brought in annually for 4 years until all 9 rated properties are completed. Then the process will move to 8's and so on.*
- This process was selected because it was not subjective nor does it target any certain area but addresses the areas that Ohio Department of Health suggests.

Examples

- Monroe Township, Powell Creek watershed, trench system installed in 1972
 - Age: 2
 - Type: 1
 - Watershed: 2
 - **TOTAL- 5**
- Blanchard Township, Blanchard River watershed, unknown system, unknown age
 - Age: 3
 - Type: 3
 - Watershed: 3
 - **TOTAL: 9**
- Union Township, Blanchard River watershed, chamber system installed in 2009
 - Age: 1
 - Type: 1
 - Watershed: 3
 - **TOTAL: 5**

Terms and Conditions

- Maintain any service contracts necessary for the maintenance of your HSTS
 - *Systems that have mechanics such as UV light and/or aerators*
- Perform any tests required for the system (NPDES)
 - *Annual testing requirements required by EPA permit*
- Pump septic tank at least once every 10 years
 - *Homeowner may pump their tank for frequent if needed*

Evaluation of System

- Visual Evaluation
 - *Septic tank area*
 - *Secondary treatment area*
 - *Outlet*

- Nothing will be dug up or disturbed during the evaluations

- One evaluation will be performed during each 5 year operation permit

- Option to work with a contractor to perform the evaluation if you choose.
 - *Evaluation by contractor must be done within years 1-4 of permit.*

Public Nuisance

- ORC 3718.011 Conditions under which sewage treatment system causes a public health nuisance
 - *Is not operating properly due to a missing component, incorrect settings, or a mechanical or electrical failure*
 - *Blockage in a known sewage treatment system component or pipe that causes a backup of sewage or effluent affecting the treatment process or inhibiting proper plumbing drainage*
 - *Ponding of liquid or bleeding of liquid onto the surface of the ground or into surface water and the liquid has a distinct sewage odor, a black or gray coloration, or the presence of organic matter and any of the following:*
 - Dye test
 - Presence of fecal coliform at a level that is equal to or greater than 5000 fecal coliform per one hundred milliliters...
 - Water samples that exceed 1030 e.coli counts per 100 milliliters...

****when testing the results must exceed the limits 2 out of 5 times or more 20% of the samples collected when more than 5 samples are collected.****

PCHD WILL NOT BE DYE TESTING OR SAMPLING ANY SYSTEM DURING EVALUATIONS

Options

- If there is a nuisance, what does that mean?
 - *Repair*
 - *Remediate*
 - *Replace*
- Examples:
 - *A system is made up of a tank and a sub-surface sand filter. The tank caves in but the rest of the system is functioning as designed and a public health nuisance isn't observed. **The tank can be replaced and the remaining portion of the system can be used.***
 - *A system composed of a tank only has a lid that is cracking and falling apart. **The lid can be repaired/replaced and the tank can continue to be used.***
 - *A system composed of a tank with trenches is ponding on the surface. **Options to remediate include but not limited to flushing the lines if possible, pumping the tank, using HE appliances, and/or applying a sand cap with top soil on the secondary treatment area.** These options would be used prior to replacement, unless the homeowner chooses the replacement at the first option.*
 - *A tank only system has collapsed and is not repairable. **The only option at that point is a replacement system meeting the current regulations.***

WPCLF

■ Water Pollution Control Loan Fund

- *Funding from Ohio EPA that is used for the repair or replacement of household sewage treatment systems*
- *Approximately \$200,000 remaining*
- *PCHD will continue to apply for funds as long as they are available*
- *Can fund 100%, 85% or 50% of the costs*
- *Includes installation permit, site evaluation, soil evaluation and design as well as the installation or replace of the system*
- *DOES NOT include the operation permit*
- *Must be income eligible*

<i>Household #</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>50%</i>
<i>1-4</i>	<i>\$24,250</i>	<i>\$48,500</i>	<i>\$72,750</i>

Process for the homeowner

- Receive an application for the permit from the Health Department
- Return the application with fees to the PCHD
- Permit will be issued by the PCHD for 5 years
- Allow health department to perform an evaluation of your sewage treatment system or work with a sewage contractor registered by the Putnam County Health Department to perform an evaluation on your system within the first 4 years of the permit
- Pump tank at least one time within 10 years
- Supply any necessary service contracts to the health department if your system is required to maintain a servicing contract (aerators, NPDES or pre-treated systems)
- Renew operation permit every 5 years

Fees

- Currently the fee is \$75 for a 5 year operation permit
- There is no charge for the evaluation of the system with a valid operation permit

What is it used for?

- Evaluation of the system
- Staff working within O&M Program
- Mailings
- Educational material

*No work outside of the O&M Program will be funded by the operation permit fees

**PCHD cannot charge more than what it costs to run the program.

Other counties

- Allen County: Currently they are charging \$12 annually for an operation permit. No work is included in that permit fee.
- Auglaize: 10 year plan with a 5 year permit with an evaluation within the first 5 years of permitting.
- Wood: 1 year permit for NPDES & mechanical systems, 5 year permit for all other systems. An evaluation from the health dept. will be performed.
- All other counties in the area are working on their plans or updating their current plan.

Putnam County Stats

- 15 townships
- ~6800 Household Sewage Treatment Systems
- 2 river watersheds
- Records dating back to the 1950's

Contact Us

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