

Technical Report and Engineering Installation Plan Requirements Septic Systems Proposed on Slopes Exceeding 20%

When it is proposed to install a leachfield on slopes over 20% the County Sewage Ordinance requires that it be demonstrated “through a technical report and complete engineering installation plan...that use of the subsurface leaching system will not permit sewage effluent to surface, or will degrade water quality, create a nuisance, affect soil stability, or present a threat to the public health or safety. The technical report shall include, but not be limited to, soil percolation rates, contours, soil depth, seasonal ground water elevations, location of all existing or proposed ground cuts, rock formations, soil stability, drainage, and such other data as determined by the director...”

The following are the minimum requirements for the preparation of the technical report and engineering installation plan.

1. The technical report and engineering installation plan must be prepared by a state registered civil engineer, certified engineering geologist or registered environmental health specialist. The report and plan may be prepared by different authorized professionals.
2. Engineering Installation Plan Requirements:
 - a) The plan must be wet-stamped by the designer and initialed or signed.
 - b) The plan must include cross section(s) through the leachfield that show leachline depths and details, and any benching that will be necessary to install the system.
3. Technical Report Requirements:
 - a) The report must specifically reference the “engineered” plan. If, at some future date, the leachfield is appreciably modified an amended report must be submitted that references the modified plan.
 - b) The technical report must discuss the soils, percolation rate, slope, cuts, etc.
 - c) The report must state specifically in the conclusion that the proposed septic system will not (or other wording such as not likely to, risk is very low, etc.):
 - (1) Permit sewage effluent to surface
 - (2) Degrade water quality
 - (3) Affect soil stability
 - (4) Present a threat to the public health or safety
 - (5) Create a public nuisance