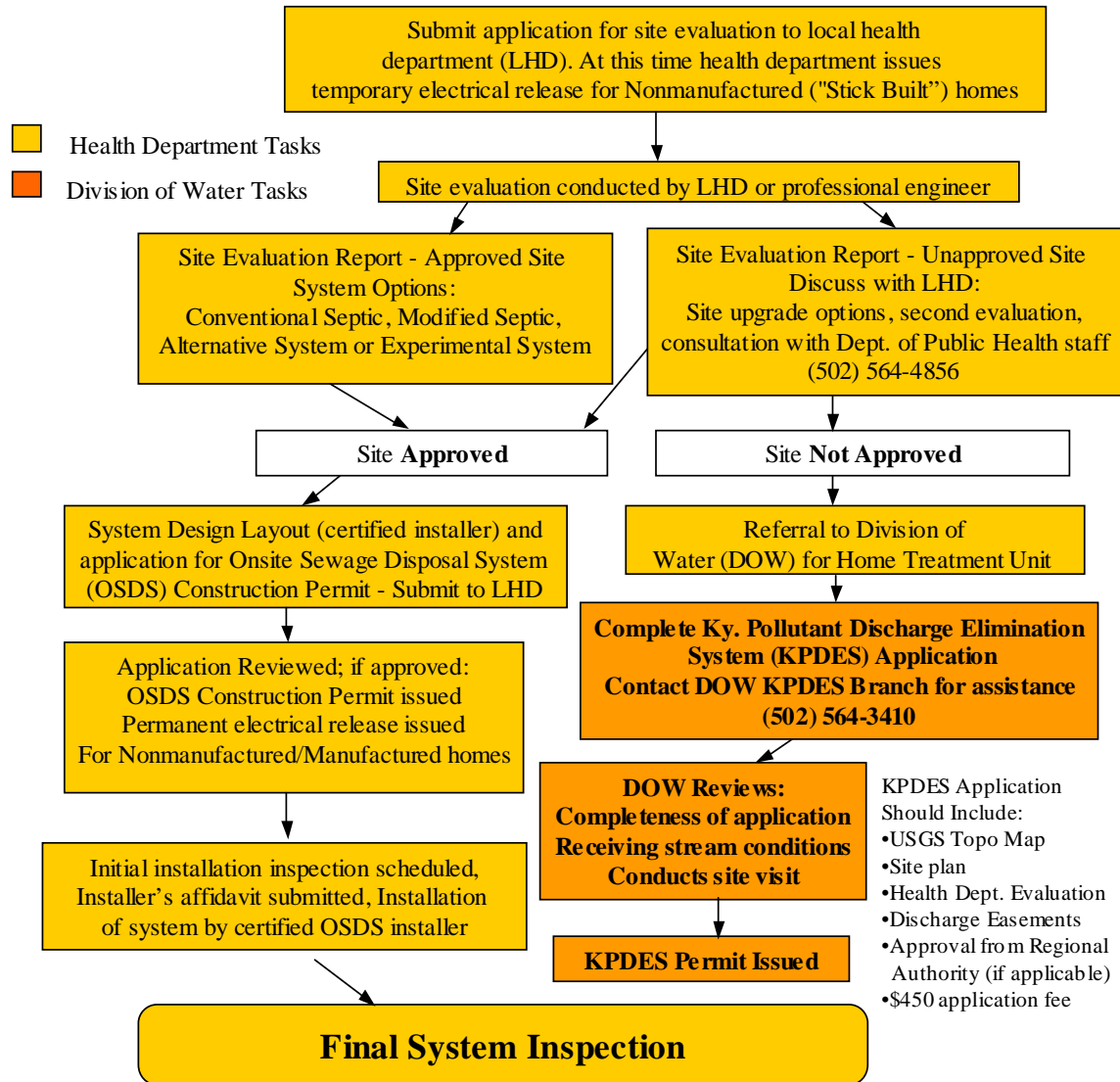


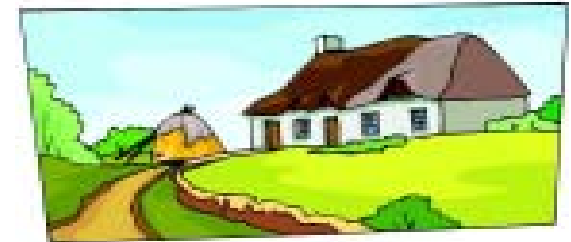
Commonwealth of Kentucky Application and Permitting Process for Individual Home Sewage Systems



Builders/Bankers/Realtors

Guide to Onsite Wastewater and New Construction

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE!
BUILDINGS WITHOUT APPROVED
SEWAGE DISPOSAL ARE NOT
ELIGIBLE FOR ELECTRICAL
HOOKUP**



Produced by:
**Ky. Environmental and Public Protection
Cabinet**
LaJuana S. Wilcher, Secretary
 and
Ky. Cabinet for Health & Family Services
Mark D. Birdwhistell, Secretary
Ernie Fletcher, Governor

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Whether you are a builder breaking ground for a new development or a professional assisting prospective homeowners with selecting, siting and financing their dream home, the possibilities seem endless and the excitement is contagious. As you are well aware, there are many steps that must be taken before a property may be occupied. This brochure is intended to assist you in insuring that wastewater treatment is not a stumbling block that cannot be overcome.

Each site proposed for development or redevelopment must be evaluated for sewage disposal prior to construction. Further, before a home or business can be eligible for permanent electrical hookup, it must have an approved onsite sewage disposal system or be hooked up to a public sewage collection system (KRS 211.350).

No construction should begin on a site until a legal method of sewage disposal has been determined. This is critically important for sites that are being considered for onsite systems, as **any** disruption or compaction of the naturally occurring soils on the site can result in irreversible damage. Once damage has occurred, it effectively eliminates onsite systems as an option for a legal sewage disposal system. **For some locations and situations, there are no sewage disposal methods that can be approved.**

Failure to secure access to approved sewage disposal in advance of construction can result in a loss of expenses incurred in site preparation if no sewage disposal method can be approved. ***In some cases, construction has been stopped, and some sites have had to be abandoned.***



Examples of disposal methods that ***cannot*** be approved include:

- * Single-family wastewater treatment plants for a home within a residential subdivision or a manufactured/mobile home within a leased-land community. For these situations, a single treatment plant serving the entire development must be considered.
- * Single-family treatment plants also cannot be approved for homes where the discharge would impact a lake or backwater bay of a lake or river or where other special water quality considerations are present.
- * Wastewater treatment plants with spray irrigation cannot be approved on lands with greater than 6 percent slope or on lands dominated by sinkholes. Septic tanks and other onsite systems, which must be approved by local health departments, are highly dependent on soil and site conditions and often cannot be approved.

In some situations, an alternative sewage disposal method can be found. ***However, in some cases, no method exists that can be legally approved.***

We have seen many instances in which construction has begun before access to sewage disposal was secured and then had to be stopped or abandoned entirely. There have even been some full-scale developments under construction before a means of wastewater treatment was secured. In cases such as these, the developer may be risking the sacrifice of significant funds. Likewise, mortgage lenders may see previously solid risks become defaults.

We hope this information has been helpful!

For more information about sewage disposal, operation and maintenance of systems, sewage disposal methods and discharge permits

To schedule a site evaluation contact your local health department

Septic Systems Contact:
Kentucky Department of Public Health
275 E. Main St HS1C-D
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-4856
<http://chs.ky.gov/publichealth/environmental.htm>

KPDES-Permitted Units Contact:
Barry Elmore, Kentucky Division of Water
14 Reilly Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-3410
<http://www.water.ky.gov/permitting/wastewaterpermitting/KPDES/residences/>

