

SAN JUAN BASIN

public health

Reminders for Installing, Altering, or Repairing an OWTS

- Get a copy of the On-site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) permit once it is issued, with SJBPH's Authorization to Construct signature per Reg. 5.1.B, and the Professional Engineer's OWTS design.
- Carefully review the OWTS design and all permit conditions prior to any construction or installation. Coordinate all installation activities and schedule inspections with the Professional Engineer and SJBPH. Contact the Professional Engineer or SJBPH if you have any questions.
- Please contact the Environmental Health office at 970-335-2052 to inform SJBPH when you are about to start the installation, be sure to provide the OWTS Permit #, property owner's name, and address. This helps SJBPH to plan for upcoming fieldwork.
- Contact the Professional Engineer to inform him/her that you (as a licensed OWTS Installer) are ready to begin the installation/construction of the "approved" OWTS. Prior to any construction, arrange for the Professional Engineer to meet with you at the site/property to stake out the location of the OWTS components, as needed.
- Install the authorized OWTS design according to all Plans, specifications, and permit conditions. Have all solid sewer lines bedded and ready for cover.
- Do not change the OWTS design specifications or system location or orientation unless authorized by the Professional Engineer or SJBPH (best if all changes/approvals are in writing).
- If your OWTS design includes a siphon or a pump (Uniform Pressure Distribution), then a Wet Test is required to verify uniform distribution and pressure. Orifices need to be straight-up (12:00 o'clock) to conduct the Wet Test. Ask your Professional Engineer or SJBPH if you have any questions.
- Contact SJBPH, and the Professional Engineer, when construction of the OWTS has been completed but not yet backfilled, to request a Construction Inspection. SJBPH OWTS 2014 Regulation requires, at least "two full working days" prior notice to schedule a SJBPH construction inspection, 5.12.B.2. Remember, do not backfill the system until authorized to do so by the Professional Engineer or SJBPH.
- After the Professional Engineer, if engineered, and/or SJBPH have inspected and approved the system installation, complete the backfilling, landscaping and surface diversion ditches as specified on the design. Contact the Professional Engineer, if engineered, or SJBPH, if required, for a final grade inspection.