



KNOW YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

Fall 2022

Homes that aren't connected to city sewer must rely on septic systems as a means of wastewater disposal. Homeowners, especially new homeowners, are often unfamiliar with septic systems and their functionality.

QVHD receives numerous calls and inquiries weekly regarding septic systems, especially when a property is listed for sale or if the homeowner wants to add an addition. Homeowners, realtors, and prospective buyers sometimes mistakenly think that if a new septic tank was installed on the property then the septic system is new.

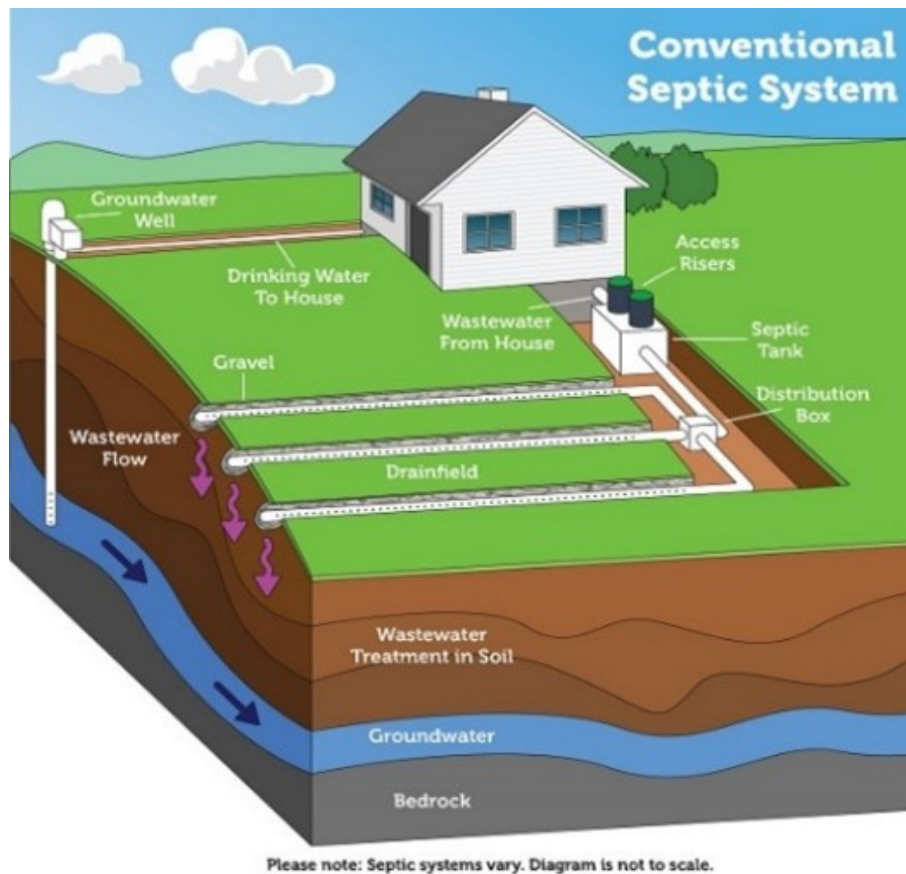


Photo credit: United States Environmental Protection Agency

The tank is only one component of the septic system. Wastewater flows from the house, through a pipe to the tank. The tank's role is to collect solids while simultaneously allowing the liquid wastewater to flow out the other end into the leaching system and disperse into the ground.

The leaching system is the largest, most important, most expensive component of a septic system. It is where the liquid portion of the wastewater interacts with the soil and percolates into the ground so that the viruses and bacteria are treated and reduced before the wastewater is recycled back into the groundwater.



Each of the components of a septic system can have their own problems that result from things like incorrect installation, root intrusion, corrosion of concrete products, age and misuse and overuse of wastewater leaving the house. Often a single component like a tank or a distribution box is replaced due to failure, but the existing leaching fields may be left in place if they are still functional.

Prospective buyers or their realtors should always check with their local health department to see if there are records of the septic system for the property in question. Health Department files may contain information on the soil conditions of the property, existing septic system information, and septic system repair or replacement history.

More information on septic systems can be found by following the links below:

<https://www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart-homeowners>

<https://www.epa.gov/septic/how-care-your-septic-system>

NEED THE NEW BIVALENT COVID-19 VACCINE?

QVHD is currently offering **the Moderna Bivalent booster.**

If you are 18 years or older and interested in receiving a Moderna Bivalent booster vaccination through QVHD, please call the health district at (203) 248-4528 to schedule an appointment at our next clinic. Registration can be accessed by visiting: www.qvhd.org/clinics

September is National Preparedness Month

Tip of the month: Purchase a **First Aid kit** and add extra gloves, bandages, gauze pads, tape and other items specific to your individual or family needs. Basic First Aid Kits typically do not have enough supplies for a family for 3 or more days so keep that in mind. It is critical that you have enough of those items in your kit to support basic first aid treatment until EMS staff can arrive and take over.



Check out QVHD's preparedness video where we highlight the importance of having Naloxone, the opioid overdose reversal medication, as part of your emergency preparedness kit, scan the code on the right to learn more!



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Quinnipiack Valley
Health District

QUINNIPIACK VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT
1151 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, NORTH HAVEN
WWW.QVHD.ORG | 203-248-4528 | INFO@QVHD.ORG

Suicide Prevention Month

September is suicide prevention month, a time to check in on those around you, re-connect, have meaningful conversations, and ensure everyone has the support and resources they may need. We all have a role in preventing suicide. In 2020, the state of Connecticut experienced 364 deaths by suicide while nearly 46,000 lives were lost nationwide to suicide. The **New Haven Out of the Darkness Walk** provides an opportunity to remember lives lost, to support those impacted by suicide deaths, to raise awareness that suicide is preventable and show people that we are here to help. The walk is scheduled for **Sunday, October 2nd at Town Center Park**, a shareable flyer is included below. **Visit: www.afsp.org/Hamden to register or donate.**

Additionally, **the suicide prevention hotline** is accessible 24/7, free of charge, offering confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. **Call or text 988 to access assistance** and share this lifesaving resource with those around you.



New Haven/ Hamden Walk
Sunday, October 2nd
10am-1pm

Town Center Park, Hamden

Register at
afsp.org/hamden



American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention



988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

If you or someone you know
needs support now,
call or text 988
or
chat 988lifeline.org



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Did you know: QVHD administers a School Based Health Center (SBHC) at Hamden High School and at Church Street Elementary School? The SBHCs are state-licensed outpatient clinics housed right in the school and are open during school hours so that students and parents/guardians do not need to miss school or work to get care.

Services include:

- Preventative medical services like physical exams, sports physicals and immunizations
- Acute care visits to diagnose, treat and follow up on illness or injury
- Individual/group counseling
- Short/long term therapy as needed

2022 - 2023 School Year

SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTER (SBHC)

The School Based Health Center at **Hamden High** is open*:

Monday - Friday
7:30 am - 2:30 pm

Phone: (203) 248-6107

Hamdenhighschoolsbbc@cornellscott.org

The School Based Health Center at **Church Street** Elementary is open*:

Monday: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm
Thursday: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Phone: (203) 407-4379

ChurchStreetSchoolSBHC@cornellscott.org

*when school is in session



Visit: www.qvhd.org/sbhc to learn more!



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