

Marshall County: Chestnut Creek Watershed BMP Implementation Plan: Septic System Repair and Maintenance

The Chestnut Creek Watershed team has partnered with the Marshall County Health Department to develop a Sanitation Maintenance program for the Chestnut Creek watershed. BMP implementations will not be put into practice until this plan is approved by the Kentucky Division of Water. The Chestnut Creek Watershed team and the Marshall County Health Department will guarantee that all BMP actions will be conducted in accordance with the Chestnut Creek Watershed Sanitation Maintenance Program. Best Management Practices (BMPs) used will be catered to the individual practice and will be in accordance to Kentucky Law.

The BMPs will be selected on a first come first serve basis. The selection process for these practices will depend on the homeowner or tenant voluntarily coming forward with their issues. The selection process will begin with the homeowner coming forward with their issue. The Marshall County Health Department will determine if the system is failing or not. The failing systems will be eligible for funding. According to the Marshall County Health Department a failing septic system repair is estimated to cost \$3,000. A ranking system will determine the rationality of which practices will need to be installed first. Many factors will determine the rank of each practice with the most important ones being location of the discharge, and watershed/health impact. BMPs will be targeted by using the Map of Bacteria that is used in the Chestnut Creek Watershed BMP Implementation Plan. Areas that have a lower recreation and E. coli grade will receive higher priority. Septic repair and or replacement will only be implemented in areas not likely to get sewer line extensions.

An application has been developed to gain the proper information that will be needed to accurately assess the size of the applicants needs in order to take corrective action. See attached appendix C. If the applicant meets the minimum criteria of having a septic problem in the Chestnut Creek Watershed, the application score will be based on location of the discharge, and watershed/health impact. We will distribute a septic brochure to educate the public in the Chestnut Creek Watershed in hopes of residents coming forward with their septic issues.

An inspector from the Marshall County Health Department will assess each project and rank them according to appendix C. All soil and site evaluations will be performed at the time of inspection. The landowner will be encouraged to acquire two bids unless the landowner has a preferred contractor. After being submitted, the best bid according to the landowner will be accepted. In order for the project to begin a permit must be obtained and the weather and soil conditions must be favorable. The septic system will then be installed and inspected by the Marshall County Health Department. The funds will be disbursed to the Certified Septic Installer only after being inspected and approved. The Health Department will also be in charge of closing out old septic tanks.

The Friends of Clarks River's goal will be to educate homeowners and the community about water quality and septic system function.

- Conduct workshops and a field day with assistance from the Marshall County Health Department
- Partnering with the Health Department will provide a no-cost septic system pump out service to workshop participants.
- Meet with local officials to gain project support

- Collect contact information from local citizens interested in future watershed project information
- Produce letters/flyers/brochures advertising the program
- Newspaper article about the project in the Marshall County Tribune
- Provide septic information and advertise through the Marshall County Health Departments website
- Post advertisement and project updates to the Chestnut Creek Watersheds Facebook page

BMP technologies eligible for installation are as follows:

- Septic system pump outs
- New septic tank and conventional leach lines to be installed in original or approved fill soil areas
- New septic tank and leaching chambers to be installed in original or approved fill soil areas
- Existing septic tank and new conventional leach lines to be installed in original or approved fill soil areas
- Existing septic tank and new leaching chambers to be installed in original or approved fill soil areas
- Addition of conventional leach lines or leaching chamber to existing systems which are surfacing sewage
- Alternative systems as submitted and approved; mandatory operation and maintenance contracts
- Any of the above systems with a pump tank and a pump to transfer the effluent from a lower tank to a higher lateral field if necessary

The Chestnut Creek BMP implementation will aid landowners by paying for the project in full. The Friends of Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge will provide 100% of the cost using grant funds. The landowner can provide assistance throughout the project if they are able (equipment and labor) as match. The Friends of Clarks River will also pay the inspection fee to the Marshall County Health Department when required, some fees may be waived and considered match. The Health Department will work with the Friends group to provide match with in kind labor.

Maintenance Agreement with Landowner:

All landowners must agree to a long-term agreement for each BMP installed. The life of the BMP will be used in conjunction with the Marshall County Health Department codes and regulations. An agreement must be signed in writing by the landowner or tenant before the project is completed. The BMP must be completed within 12 months from the date the contract was signed. If project cannot be completed within the 12 months (due to inclement weather, equipment malfunction) then an extension must be filed.

Notification Process to KY Division of Water:

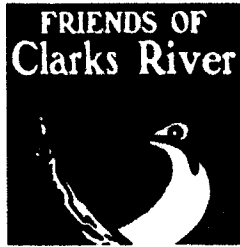
The KY Division of Water must be notified of a selected BMP before implementation. The notification can either be in the form of a letter or e-mail to the Technical Advisor (TA). The notification will describe the BMP, location where the BMP will be installed, and the expected date of implementation. If projects consist of multiple BMPs and landowners are cooperating, the TA may request batch notification (monthly reporting of septic tank repairs)

NOTE: BMPs will comply with Kentucky's Groundwater Protection Plan (GPP) and the Agricultural Water Quality Plan. 401 KAR 5:037 requires persons who own/operate septic systems to have a Groundwater

Protection Plan. The form can be filled out at

<http://water.ky.gov/groundwater/Pages/GroundwaterProtectionPlans.aspx>

An Agricultural Water Quality Plan is applicable if you own 10 acres or more and you perform commercial agricultural activities (i.e. excludes large garden for family consumption, even if you use tractor and apply chemical pesticides/herbicides/ fertilizers).



Application for Septic Repair

Owner's Name _____

Occupant's Name (if different): _____

Address of Property (include distance to creek): _____

Location of the discharge: _____

Phone and email:

Describe your septic system situation (including any known problems, number of people in the household, type of leach field, type of tank, and approximate date of last pump out).

Watershed/health impact:

Are you interested in serving on the Chestnut Creek Watershed Team? Do you have a particular area of interest?

Have you completed a Groundwater Protection Plan (GPP) or an Agricultural Water Quality Plan? 401 KAR 5:037 requires persons who own/operate septic systems to have a Groundwater Protection Plan. An Agricultural Water Quality Plan is applicable if you own 10 acres or more and you perform commercial agricultural activities (i.e. excludes large garden for family consumption, even if you use tractor and apply chemical pesticides/herbicides/ fertilizers).

Cost

There will be no cost to the homeowner. If there is a contribution the homeowner can make such as equipment or if they are willing to pay the inspection fee, those costs will contribute towards the match of the overall Chestnut Creek project. Match will also come from workshops over septic maintenance and all in kind labor from the Marshall County Health Department. All final costs will be agreed upon by homeowner, The Chestnut Creek Watershed Coordinator, and the Marshall County Health Department before any work is done.

The landowner will be required to communicate directly with the Chestnut Creek Watershed Coordinator. Upon selection for participation in the Chestnut Creek septic maintenance program, the landowner will be required to sign the following statement:

I certify that the above information is true and correct. I hereby request for payment to be made to installer for work on my property to the extent that the Chestnut Creek Watershed Coordinator and the Marshall County Health Department determine that the practice has been performed. I have 60 days after project approval to obtain two bids and meet with Health Inspector. I agree to refund all or part of funds paid, if, before expiration of the practice's life span specified above, I (a) destroy the practice installed, or (b) cease to use practice for its intended purpose, or (c) voluntarily relinquish control or title to land on which the practice has been installed and the new owner and/or operator does not agree, in writing, to properly use and maintain practice for the remainder of its specified life span. I agree to follow recommended septic maintenance for the life of the septic tank, pumping out every three to five years.

I agree to allow photos or video of my property to be taken and used for use by the Chestnut Creek Watershed Coordinator. I understand that before I am eligible for work to begin, I must: (1) Complete a Groundwater Protection Plan and (2) Agree upon and sign contract.

Applicant Signature

Date

Confidential Statement: This information will only be used for official purposes and will not be given out to any individual or company that it is not intended for. You will receive a Form 1099 if you have received \$600 or more in funds.