



# Septic tank abandonment and private water system inactivation

*What you need to know*

## Septic tanks



*Septic tank abandonment in progress*

When a building with a septic system is demolished or the building is being changed over to public sewer, the septic system must be properly abandoned.

*A septic tank that has not been properly abandoned is a safety hazard.*

### Steps:

1. Apply for abandonment permit from Clermont County Public Health. You will be given the required form and instructions.
2. A registered septage pumper removes the contents of the tank(s). The System owner keeps documentation and receipts from the septage hauler.
3. Crush and fill tank(s). Take photos of the progress.
4. Call for inspection within 30 days of abandonment. Provide completed abandonment form and required documentation to the inspector.
5. Specific abandonment requirements are listed in the Ohio Sewage Treatment Rules - Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-29-1.

## Private water wells, cisterns and hauled water tanks.



*Unsecured hand-dug well that needs to be sealed*

Wells, cisterns, and hauled water storage tanks that are no longer intended for use must be properly sealed or decommissioned in accordance with the Ohio Private Water System Rules Ohio Administrative Code 3701-28.

*A well, cistern or hauled water tank that is not properly sealed is a safety hazard.*

**Be aware that only registered private water system contractors can seal or decommission a private water system.**

A list of registered contractors can be found on the [Ohio Department of Health's website](#).

### Steps:

1. Apply for sealing permit at Clermont County Public Health.
2. After the application is approved, sealing is done in accordance with OAC 3701-28.
3. Call for inspection within 30 days of sealing.
4. Provide required documentation and photos to the inspector.

