



CITY OF SUFFOLK

442 W WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1095, POST OFFICE BOX 1858, SUFFOLK,
VIRGINIA 23439-1858

PHONE: (757) 514-4060

FAX: (757) 514-4099

DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Division of Planning

July 1, 2015

Subject: Septic System Maintenance Program - **Zone 2**

Dear Suffolk Property Owner:

This letter is intended to notify you about the state requirement for private septic tanks to be pumped out or inspected at least once every 5 years. The purpose of this action is to protect the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Failing septic tanks contaminate both stormwater and groundwater, which is then transported to the Bay through stormwater run-off and groundwater movement.

Septic tank maintenance is mandated under Section 9VAC 10-20-120.7 of the Virginia Code. These regulations are administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the City of Suffolk. In compliance to the Code of Virginia, the City of Suffolk's Unified Development Ordinance, Section 31- 415 (c) (6), requires that you have your septic tank or pumping chamber pumped out by a septage handler who has been certified by the Virginia Department of Health. A list of certified septage handlers is attached for your reference.

As an alternative to having the septic tank pumped out, the regulations allow for the submission of documentation to the City of Suffolk, certified by an operator or onsite soil evaluator licensed or certified under Chapter 23 of Title 54.1 (Section 54.1-2300) of the Code of Virginia, as being qualified to operate, maintain, or design on-site sewage systems, that the septic system has been inspected, is functioning properly, and the tank does not need to be pumped out.

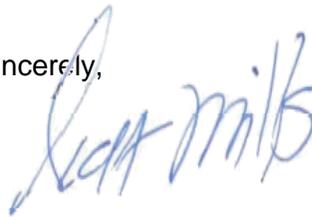
You are receiving this notification because you have been identified as a property owner with a septic system requiring maintenance under the above cited regulations. Within the next twelve

(12) months, or no later than June 30, 2016, please provide the City of Suffolk with documentation certifying that you have had your septic tank pumped and /or inspected within the last five (5) years by a certified or licensed septage handler, operator or on-site soil evaluator. Please fill out and return the attached form and supporting documentation as specified on the form. If you do not have a septic system on your property or your tank has been closed, please also indicate that on the form.

If you are unable to pay for the pump out of your septic tank, financial assistance is available for those meeting income eligibility requirements. To request assistance and to determine your eligibility for participation in this program, please contact the Department of Planning and Community Development, Planning Division at 514-4060.

For more information about the Septic System Maintenance Program, you may visit the Planning Division's website at www.suffolkva.us/PCD or our office in the City Hall building, located at 442 W. Washington Street. If you have additional questions, please call us at 514-4060.

Sincerely,



Scott Mills, AICP
Director of Planning and Community Development

Attachments