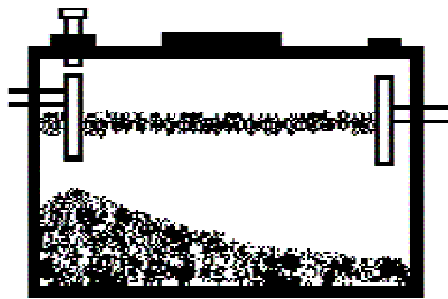


This pamphlet is intended to assist Dingman Township residents in understanding the most common procedure for repairing an elevated sandmound sewage disposal system. Dingman Township property owners may request a hard copy of this pamphlet by calling the Dingman Township Sewage Department.

Procedures for Correcting a Sludge / Grease Clogged Elevated Sandmound Sewage Disposal System.



This guide is to clarify the procedures that will be used, and Township inspection schedule that will be required, when property owners propose the removal of sludge/grease from a clogged elevated sandmound system. Neither the Township nor the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer offer any guarantee that the procedure will correct the problem or warrantee that the repaired system will function correctly.

Chris Wood
Sewage Enforcement Officer
Office Hours: 9:00 – 10:30 AM Monday through Friday
570 – 296 – 9260

WARNING: State Law requires that anyone intending to repair any sewage disposal system must obtain a sewage permit prior to commencing the repair. Repairing a sewage disposal system without first obtaining a sewage permit for the repair is punishable by a fine of no less than \$ 500.00 nor more than \$5000.00 and / or 90 days imprisonment.

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The Problem:



A layer of septic tank sludge and/or grease has formed along the aggregate/sand interface. The pressure of the pumped effluent often pushes the sludge/grease into the upper levels of the sand.

Step #1



Remove the cover soil, aggregate, piping, and 3 to 4 inches of the sand. The remaining sand should be uniformly brown with no sign of black or low chroma gray color. In some cases it may be necessary to remove additional sand in all or part of the bed.

Step #2



The remaining sand should be raked level. Then, using the backhoe bucket teeth, the upper surface of the sand should be scarified.

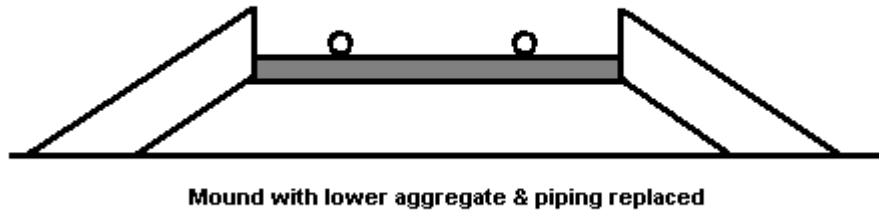
→→→ AN INSPECTION IS REQUIRED AT THIS POINT.

Step #3



Additional sand, meeting current DEP requirements, shall be placed bringing the sand back to the original level. Sand certification slips will be required.

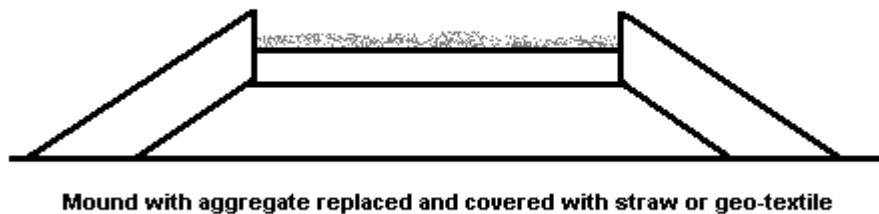
Step #4



Place 6 inches of aggregate on sand. Replace piping to original configuration, hole size, and hole spacing.

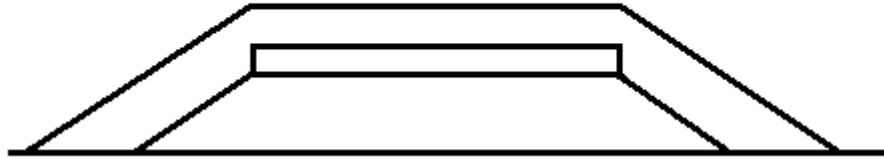
→→→ AN INSPECTION IS REQUIRED AT THIS POINT.

Step #5



After inspection, add 4 inches of aggregate (2" along pipes – 2" over pipes) over aggregate and place a suitable soil barrier. This could be in the form of geo-textile fabric or a 2" deep layer of hay.

Step #6



Cover system with 12" of soil suitable for growing grass. Grade the system slightly crowning the mound. Seed with grass and mulch.

→→→ AN INSPECTION IS REQUIRED AT THIS POINT.

Step #7

Examine the dosing tank. Rewire and repair as necessary.

Step #8

Examine the septic tank(s). Ensure baffles are properly in place. Replace/repair as necessary.

The property owner is advised to consider modifying the system to reduce the chances of the problem reoccurring. Possible upgrades could include:

- adding additional septic tanks
- replacing septic tank with an aerobic tank
- adding an effluent filter

The property owner is advised to consider lifestyle and operational changes to reduce the chances of the problem reoccurring. Such changes may include:

- pumping the septic tank every 2 years (more frequently if necessary).

- doing laundry throughout the week instead of saving it for weekends.
- not introducing chemicals into the septic tank and avoiding products designed to “HELP” the septic tank. (many such products actually cause mound failure.

For more information about proper system operation, call the Dingman Township Sewage Enforcement Officer at 570-296-9260 Monday thru Friday 9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

