

UNDERSTANDING

Source Water Protection

THE GOAL: Prevent contaminants from entering waterways that serve as sources for our drinking water.

THE BENEFITS:

- ✓ Protects our drinking water supplies.
- ✓ Ensures a healthy habitat for countless species.
- ✓ Decreases need for costly, complex treatments to remove pollutants.

The source water for Middleburg Municipal Authority is from surface water intakes and a groundwater well.

Your water system has volunteered to participate in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Source Water Protection Technical Assistance Program (SWPTAP).

THROUGH SWPTAP: A plan will be developed to guide your water system's source water protection efforts in the future. Once complete, it will be available for all customers to learn more about assisting with our source water protection efforts.



More Ways to Help



Minimize your use of pesticides and herbicides on your lawn and garden.



Bring hazardous waste (ex: paint) to recycling facilities.



Don't pour motor oil on the ground or in a storm drain. Dispose of motor oil at garages that recycle it.



Pump out your septic system every two or three years.



Do not flush any unwanted or leftover medications down the toilet or sink drain. Dispose of them at a disposal event or collection box.



Don't dump pool water into a creek or storm drain. Direct it to a sanitary sewer or foliage once chlorine diminishes.



Remember that anything you throw or store on the ground or put down the toilet will find its way into waterways.

If you observe a chemical spill, call the PA Department of Environmental Protection at 800-541-2050.

CITIZEN'S GUIDE:

Septic System Care and Maintenance



Middleburg Municipal Authority

This program is funded by the PA Department of Environmental Protection's Source Water Protection Technical Assistance Program.

Why should I maintain my septic system?

On-lot septic systems are used to dispose of wastewater including waste from bathroom, kitchen, and laundry use.

If not treated properly, these waste substances can travel through the soil and contaminate local waterways.

Save money!

Repairing or replacing a septic system can be very expensive. Inspecting and pumping the system every 3 years helps keep the components working correctly.

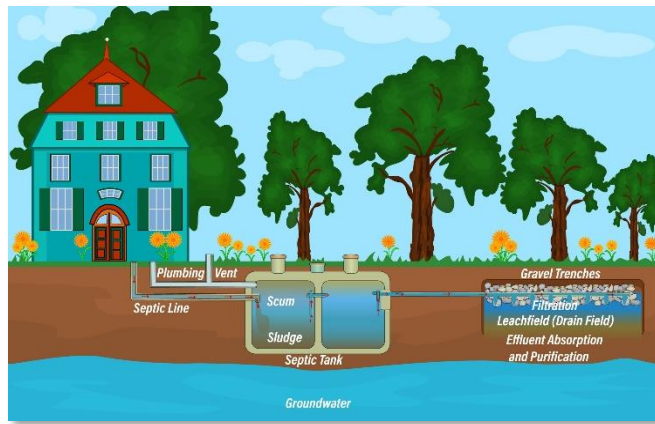
Protect your health!

Bacteria and viruses are found in the wastewater, and a functional septic system removes most of the organisms during treatment.

Protect the environment!

What goes into your septic system may end up in your drinking water source. Refrain from using cleaners and other chemicals that may eventually be discharged from your system and soak into the ground.

On-lot systems are used for households that are not on a public sewer systems.



Typical Septic System:

SEPTIC TANK: Tanks can be constructed from plastic, fiberglass, or concrete. Tank specifications are determined by state regulation, and systems are approved by local agencies.

DRAINFIELD: A drainfield is constructed from a series of perforated pipes buried in gravel-filled trenches in the soil. When wastewater enters the tank, an equal amount (known as effluent) is forced into the drainfield for treatment.

SOIL: Soil encompassing the trenches treats the wastewater by allowing infiltration of the liquids to neutralize most of the pollutants. Effluent is eventually incorporated into groundwater.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
Scan with smartphone camera.



System Operation and Maintenance



Understanding Septic Systems

Caring for Your System:

Remember: the homeowner is responsible for the care and maintenance of the septic system. Here are some ideas to keep your system in top shape:

- Inspect the entire system every 1-3 years to ensure good working order.
- Pump solids from the tank every 3 years to avoid overfilling & failing tanks.
- Keep service & pumping records handy.
- Repair the system as soon as trouble signs appear such as sluggish toilets, sewer odors, spongy ground, or raw sewage backups.
- Conserve water and follow directions to prevent malfunctions.

SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE RECORD

Date	Company	Service	Comments

Middleburg Municipal Authority

13 North Main Street | Middleburg, PA 17842
(570) 837-2533 | <https://middleburgborough.com/>

The members of your water system work around the clock to provide top quality tap water to every tap. It is a task that we take very seriously. For more information, contact us.