



# Clearwater Inspections

*Portage County Health District (PCHD) requires a clearwater inspection when abandoning a sewage treatment system and connecting to a public sanitary sewer system.*

*PCHD conducts clearwater inspections to check that all sewage and gray water are properly directed to the sewage system prior to connecting to sanitary sewers. All clearwater must be separated and thus not added to the expense of cleaning & treating sewage and gray water.*

## **WASTE WATER:**

- **Sewage** is any liquid waste containing animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution that originates from humans and human activities, including liquids containing household chemicals in solution commonly discharged from a residence.
- **Gray Water** is any waste discharged from lavatories, bathtubs, showers, clothes washers and laundry sinks that does not contain food wastes, urine or fecal matter.

## **CLEARWATER:**

- Clearwater refers to rain and snowmelt that enters the footer drain, sump pumps, or downspouts and discharges to surface water. **Clearwater should be separate from the sewage/gray water at all times.**

*Definitions are from the 2017 Ohio Plumbing Code and Ohio Sewage Treatment System rules.*

## Inspection Details

1. Inspection lasts ~ 30 - 45 minutes.
2. Inspector will look at the current plumbing and drainage systems to see if any corrections are need prior to connecting to the sanitary sewer system. **Inspector looks for separation of sewage and gray water from any clearwater. Please note, water softener discharge must go to sanitary sewer.**
3. The inspector will identify where the laundry discharge is draining. A common mistake is when laundry water drains into the clear water sump or footer drain. There are many easy ways to correct this problem.
4. Inspector will advise homeowner what items should be fixed to bring home up to code. It is recommended to use a licensed, registered plumber to make the necessary changes.

**APPLY FOR INSPECTION — Cost: \$45.00**

### **ONLINE OR PAPER**

- **Apply online at:**  
[www.portagehealth.net](http://www.portagehealth.net) >Forms>  
Clearwater Permit Application
- **Fill out the form (see back)**  
Send or deliver to:  
Portage County Health District  
999 East Main Street  
Ravenna, Ohio 44266

### **QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL:**

Dan Robinson  
Portage County Health District  
Chief Plumbing Inspector  
**(330) 296-9919 ext. 104**