



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 21, 2022

Septic Smart Week Proclamation



SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – The Greene County Commission issued a proclamation on Wednesday, Sept. 21, to kickoff Septic Smart Week, hosted by the Missouri Smallflows Organization (MSO) at the county’s Onsite Wastewater Demonstration Facility in north Springfield.

Septic Smart Week promotes education on how home septic systems work and why maintenance is important to ensure adequate wastewater treatment.

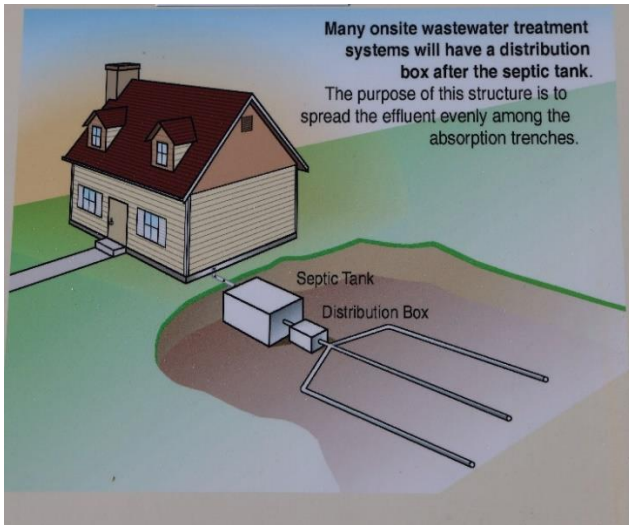


“Nearly 25% of homes in Missouri use septic systems to treat wastewater,” said Tammy Trantham, Executive Director of MSO. “Proper septic care is vital for protecting public health, preserving groundwater, lakes, streams and waterways, and avoiding costly repairs that can result from neglect.”

Water Quality Field Operations Mgr. Michael Bowers, from the Greene County Resource Management Dept., gave a demonstration on how a variety of home septic systems function.



Sewage from a home first goes into a septic tank where heavy solids settle out to form a layer of sludge on the bottom. Liquid that remains on top is called effluent and flows out of the septic tank into the soil. Wastewater is absorbed by soil bacteria that remove most of the impurities before returning to groundwater.



The type of septic system a home requires is based off the size of the home and number of bedrooms, the type and depth of soil, and bedrock considerations.

At the county’s Wastewater Facility, there are partially buried examples of: trench technologies, pump tanks, LPP systems, a pump to gravity flow absorption field, trickling biofilters, aerated treatment units, and drip pump tanks. Each vary in cost and size.

Homeowners looking to build a new structure on a property will need to hire an onsite soil evaluator to determine what type of system is needed. Professionals needing a demonstration on how to install a septic tank can contact the county’s Resource Management Dept.

“The Commission is pleased to recognize this week as Septic Smart Week in Greene County,” said Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon. We hope it brings awareness to the need for proper installation and maintenance of systems so we can continue to enjoy clean water in southwest Missouri for generations to come.”



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Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving approximately 295,000 people. Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

For additional information, contact Robert Jehle, Public Information Officer, at 417-844-4311 or rjehle@greencountymo.gov.