

Constructing or Altering a Sewage (Septic) System

A Quick Start Guide to your Building Project

Page 1 of 1

Key Terms

Sewage System (also known as a Septic System): onsite water treatment units that fulfill the role of municipal sewers in un-serviced areas. All proposed new construction or alterations to a existing sewage system require a building permit.

Considerations

- Part 8 of the Ontario Building Code specifies clearance distances from buildings and/or other objects to sewage system components.
- Homeowners are permitted to design and construct their own sewage system and are required to submit a design with calculations. It is recommended that homeowners consult with a qualified sewage system designer.
- Regular sewage system maintenance is recommended to increase the lifespan of your sewage system. It is the homeowner's responsibility to understand how to operate and maintain your system. For regular maintenance, please contact a sewage hauler.
- Compliance with Zoning By-law, Conservation Authority, and other applicable law, as required.

Permits

Visit [APLI](#), the City's online customer portal to apply for an on-site Sewage System permit. In accordance with Part 8 of the Ontario Building Code, a completed *Schedule 1: Designer Information* form must be completed by individuals who review and take responsibility for design activities with respect to the project. A completed *Schedule 2: Sewage System Installer Information* form must be completed by a registered installer. When the permit is issued, construction can commence. Visit barrie.ca/BuildingProjectResources for documentation.

Key Contacts

System Type	Contact
Sewage systems greater than 10,000 litres/day	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 1-800-565-4923
Sewage system installations or alterations or complaints about unsafe conditions for systems with a capacity of less than 10,000 litres/day	Service Barrie 705-739-4242 ServiceBarrie@barrie.ca

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The information contained in this document is maintained by the City of Barrie's Building Services Department. Visit barrie.ca/building for information on standards and inspections, applying for building permits, and more.

