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*Founded 1721*

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**Date: December 2007**

**To: Spotsylvania County Residents**

**From: Environmental Engineering Division / Code Compliance Department**

**Re: Chesapeake Bay Septic Tank Pump-Out Program**

This letter of notification is intended to inform you, as the current property owner, concerning the mandatory Virginia Code requirement for private septic tanks to be pumped out or certified, and confirmed to your local Chesapeake Bay Office (Spotsylvania County Code Compliance Department, Environmental Engineering Division) within the next 12 months, or by December 31, 2008. You have been identified as a property owner in Year One-Phase One of a five-year notification program since your property is located in the most sensitive Resource Protection Area (RPA). As such your confirmation is most critical to ensure environmental protection of natural resources.

These regulations are imposed and overseen by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Chesapeake Bay Division (Section 9 VAC 10-20-120.7), in conjunction with the Spotsylvania County Chesapeake Bay Ordinance (Section 6A-10(B) (1)).

The Division of Environmental Engineering of the Spotsylvania County Code Compliance Department will be notifying all affected private septic system owners and monitoring this activity through receipts and documents provided by owners from the septic tank company professionals. Current and prevailing science suggests pumping and/or a regular inspection of the septic tank is a useful maintenance activity and extends the life of your system ultimately lowering long term costs. This letter is your notification and request **to respond within the next 12 months** with proof of septic tank compliance under the abovementioned state and local codes.

As an **alternative**, to the mandatory pump-out, the owner shall have the option of having a **plastic filter installed and maintained** in the outflow pipe from the septic tank to filter the solid material from the effluent while sustaining adequate flow to the drainfield to permit normal use of the septic system. Such a filter shall satisfy standards established in the Sewage Handling and Disposal Regulations (12 VAC 5-610) administered by the Virginia Department of Health.

Furthermore, in lieu of providing proof of septic tank pump-out every five years, owners of on-site sewage treatment systems may **submit documentation** every five years, **certified by a sewage handler permitted by the Virginia Department of Health**, that the septic

system has been inspected, is functioning properly, and the tank(s) does not need to have the effluent pumped out of it.

Information is available on our website at [www.spotsylvania.va.us](http://www.spotsylvania.va.us) – on the homepage under “Departments,” click on “Environmental Engineering.” If you have any questions regarding this State of Virginia, Department of Conservation and Recreation-mandated program, please contact the local Environmental Engineering Division of the Spotsylvania County Code Compliance Department by telephone (540-507-7225), by e-mail ([cpennington@spotsylvania.va.us](mailto:cpennington@spotsylvania.va.us)), by fax (540-507-7281) attn: Environmental Technician), or by mail at the following address:

*Spotsylvania County Code Compliance Department  
Environmental Engineering Division  
Attn: Environmental Technician  
10304 Spotsylvania Avenue, Suite 400  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408*

Thank you for your compliance and cooperation in meeting this state-imposed requirement.

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(Please detach at this line, complete the information requested below and return in the envelope provided.)

Property Owners Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax Map # or GPIN #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

(Check appropriate blank and fill in date below)

\_\_\_\_\_ Septic tank pumped –out, documented / verification (receipt) by professional is provided. Date tank pumped-out: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved VDH plastic filter has been installed, documentation / verification provided. Date installed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Septic tank has been inspected by an approved VDH certified sewage handler, the system tank(s) is not in need of pump-out, documentation/verification is provided. Date of inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

*I verify this information is correct*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date