

SEPTAGE RECEIVING STATION FACT SHEET

SEPTAGE DEFINITIONS & FACTS

Septage: Residual waste material that has been removed from a household septic tank.

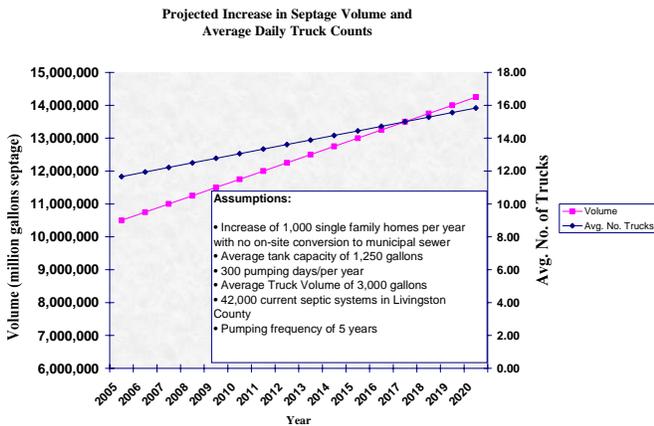
Septage Receiving Station: Any facility designed to receive septage waste which has been pumped from septic tanks.

Proportion of residents who have septic tanks: Roughly 42,000 Livingston County households utilize septic tanks.

How is septage currently disposed of? Most septage waste in Livingston County is disposed of, untreated, upon the land, among 13 permitted sites. (1 permitted site in Hartland Twp.)

How much septage is being land applied annually in Livingston County? Approx. 12 million gallons.

SYSTEM GROWTH



Based upon permit records at the Health Dept., approximately 1,000 new septic tanks are installed each year. This is predicted to increase septage volumes from 12 million to 16 million gallons by 2020. This translates into an increase of 4 trucks per day, or an average of 16 truck visits to the station per day in 2020.

STATION DESIGN

We have proposed integrating this station with the planned pump station on Runyan Lake Road, south of Clyde Rd. This consists of the addition of two drive-in bays for trucks to unload. Trucks will enter and exit through electric overhead doors, and will be totally enclosed within the building during unloading.



The picture diagrams to the left and above detail what the building will look like. The building would largely resemble a contemporary fire station.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Why is this such a critical issue? A new bill, recently signed into law by the State radically changes the way septage must be handled. This translates into large price increases for residents and a virtual guarantee that further processing and storage of the septage will be required at sites within the County..

How big is the facility being proposed? The septage receiving station is proposed to be added to a pump station building already planned for the property. The total area proposed for the site is approx. 1 acre. The facility would consist of a single brick building approximately 50 ft. by 60 ft. in size. Trucks would pull into the building and connect a 6” hose prior to discharge.

Why locate the station in Hartland Township? Due to the capacity of the District 3 plant in Genesee County, only Hartland and Tyrone Townships provide the opportunity to site a septage receiving station. Other wastewater facilities in the County do not provide adequate capacity or system design to handle significant septage volumes.

What other sites were looked at? Only sites at or near pump stations, with access to major roads, and in non-residential neighborhoods could be considered. This limited the choices to the existing wastewater facility just north of the old Oasis truck stop, and the Clyde Rd interchange.

Why not Tyrone Township? The only site that provided an opportunity is the pump station site off of White Lake Road. This site is situated within a residentially zoned area, and is anticipated to be the future site for Tyrone Township’s future Township hall, as well as a park. Additionally, the cost to upgrade White Lake Road as an all season road are cost prohibitive.

What does Hartland Township get out of this? A portion of the revenues generated by the facility would go to the Township as a hosting fee. This would total roughly \$100,000 - \$120,000 per year given current septage volumes being land applied in the County. This revenue is roughly equivalent to the tax revenue that would be generated by a commercial business of roughly 300 million dollars in value. Finally, the septage will allow us to save the main sewer project an estimated \$100,000 due to design changes that this facility allows us to make along Runyan Lake Road.

Is there any odor associated with the facility? Since the system is totally enclosed and ensures a “hard” connection with the trucks, odor outside the building is nearly non-existent. Someone standing next to the truck could detect the odor during the connection process. This might be equivalent to the odor you would experience while pumping gas. It could be detected in the immediate vicinity of the pump, but not far from it. Our visits of similarly designed receiving station have demonstrated this.

What happens if we do nothing?

1. Land application will continue to be the primary means of septage disposal for Livingston County residents. However, due to new changes in the State regulations, disposal costs will increase dramatically, and the possibility exists that additional sites will be opened for land disposal.
2. Fees to pump septic tanks are expected to more than double, potentially costing Livingston County residents another \$1.1 Million/year and will cost Hartland residents \$82,000/year.
3. Septage processing and storage facilities could be developed at various sites within the County by private industry to comply with the new regulations.

What are the contamination threats from the facility? The most important aspect of this project that residents should keep in mind is that this facility would eliminate septage from being spread on the land (including in Hartland Township) and place it in a pipe to be treated in Genesee County. The intent is to eliminate the very real groundwater contamination risks associated with the current practices and get this material into the sewers. Similar to way that many lakes in our community have installed sewers to stop the contamination of their lake from septic systems, this facility would treat septage wastes in an effort to prevent groundwater contamination.