

# OPERATION & MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

All **Alternative Treatment Technology (ATT)** onsite wastewater treatment systems and all **sand filter** or **pressure distribution** onsite systems permitted on or after January 1, 2014, are required to be maintained by a Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) licensed and certified maintenance provider.

## Maintenance Provider's Responsibilities

Maintenance providers are required to submit an annual maintenance report to the Deschutes County Onsite Wastewater Division and pay the annual report evaluation fee on behalf of their customers. A compliance recovery fee may be levied if these reports are not received by the County in a timely fashion. Please notify the County if an inspection cannot be completed due to snow or being denied entry by the property owner. Additionally, maintenance providers are required to:

- Observe and record conditions in the drainfield and ATT (if applicable) during all operation and maintenance activities for the system, and report those observations **in writing** to the system owner;
- Make necessary repairs or alterations that comply with Oregon Administrative Rules, and ensure that maintenance that has been delegated to a third party (pumping, major repairs, etc.) has been completed;
- Make emergency service available within 48 hours of a service request;
- Maintain ongoing (open-ended) service contracts with customers, and adhere to the conditions listed in the agreement;
- Notify Deschutes County within 30 days of service agreement termination;
- Be certified by the ATT manufacturer to provide service on their product (ATT systems only);
- Perform start-up inspections for newly installed pressure distribution, sand filter, or ATT systems, and provide a copy of this report to Deschutes County.

## DEQ Certified Maintenance Providers Serving Deschutes County

**Main Beam Septic Specialist**  
(541) 419-6650  
mainbeamseptic@gmail.com

**The Tank Doctor**  
(541) 318-6252  
thetankdr@yahoo.com

**Tewalt & Sons Excavation**  
(541) 549-1472  
tewaltmaintenance@gmail.com

**SOS Maintenance**  
(541) 640-6244  
sosmaintenance@yahoo.com

**Central Oregon Sanitation Services, Inc.  
DBA La Pine Septic Service**  
(541) 536-2517  
lapinesepoticservice@live.com

**Spencer Smith**  
(541) 771-2858  
semersonsmith@gmail.com



Community Development Department  
117 NW Lafayette Street  
Bend, Oregon 97703  
[www.deschutes.org/cd](http://www.deschutes.org/cd)  
(541) 388-6575

*To request this information in an alternate format, please call 541-388-6575 or send an email to [accessibility@deschutes.org](mailto:accessibility@deschutes.org).*

## Property Owner's Responsibilities

The owner of an ATT, sand filter, or pressure distribution system is responsible for paying for and maintaining a service agreement with a DEQ licensed and certified maintenance provider for the entire life of the system.

**Initial service agreement:** A minimum (2) year service agreement with a DEQ licensed and certified maintenance provider is required with all ATT, sand filter, and pressure distribution construction permit applications.

**Subsequent service agreements:** After the initial service agreement, the property owner must hold a valid, current service agreement with a DEQ licensed and certified maintenance provider for the remaining life of the onsite system. These contracts should be ongoing. If no maintenance agreement is in place, the County reserves the right to charge a compliance recovery fee, take additional actions, or levy penalties depending on the severity of the violation.

**Transfer of ownership:** If property ownership changes hands, the new owner must sign a transfer of contract agreement with the maintenance provider or obtain a new service agreement within 30 days.

Owners of these systems are also responsible for **allowing timely maintenance, properly operating the system, and ensuring the system does not cause a public health hazard or pollute public waters.** This includes:

- Reporting system failures to the County as soon as possible;
- Following instructions to fix a failing system (example: getting a repair permit);
- Allowing maintenance providers safe access to the property;
- Following maintenance provider recommendations for proper usage;
- Permitting maintenance providers to make necessary repairs to the system and its components.

## Oregon Administrative Rules

There are several Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) regarding onsite wastewater treatment system operation and maintenance. The information provided in this handout references and is applicable to the following rules:

OAR 340-071-0130(13) Operation and maintenance

OAR 340-071-0130(17) Annual permit fees and reports

OAR 340-071-0130(23) Service Contracts

OAR 340-071-0130(24) Maintenance providers under contract

OAR 340-071-0275(6) Pressure distribution service contracts

OAR 340-071-0290(7) Sand filter operation and maintenance

OAR 340-071-0345(12) ATT operation and maintenance standards

OAR 340-071-0345(14) ATT service contracts

### Tip: Keep Good Records!

Make sure your maintenance provider offers you a signed copy of the maintenance agreement and a copy of each inspection report. Ultimately, ***the onsite system owner is responsible for ensuring the maintenance provider fulfills their contracted obligations***, including submitting the annual maintenance report to Deschutes County and paying the annual report evaluation fee.

The complete Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 340, is available online from the DEQ: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Residential/Pages/Onsite-Rules.aspx>