

Site Prep and Construction Issues



Do's and Don'ts of Site Prep for Septic Systems

- Above all the advice you can be given regarding proper site preparation there is one thing to remember about any new build site.

Keep it Virgin!!!!



What is “virgin” Natural Soil?

- Natural soil is basically untouched by humans, meaning:
- No heavy machinery has driven over the soil
- No backfill
- No ponding due to changes in site topography nearby.
- Does natural soil really exist?????





How to Keep the Soil in a Natural State.

- Approved area for the system must be protected
- Use barriers such as ribboning off the area, using soil mounds to prevent machines from entering, signs etc.
- State this clearly in the permit “DO NOT DRIVE ON OR COMPACT THE AREA DESIGNATED FOR THE SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM INCLUDING THE RESERVE AREA”
- Do the septic system work during dry soil conditions
- When adding soil the treatment areal always place the soil with an excavator or push soil ahead with tracked equipment. Tracks always ride on med-coarse sand.

What about soil that's been compacted, driven on or mutilated? Can it be rejuvenated?

- Some soils may “repair” itself
- Freeze/thaw cycles
- Worms and insects
- Roots
- Water

Why is the state of the original soil so critical?

- Compacted soils severely reduce the percolation rate of the soil
- Sewage treatment systems may and do fail prematurely due to compacted soils
- Backfilled areas pose the same problem with a reduction of percolation rate
- Treatment in many cases is dependent on the original soil to be in its natural non-compacted state

What other problems are found related to designing a proper sewage treatment system?

- Change in the topography of a lot
- Destruction of the soils in the septic area during the building phase of a house or other structures'

Compacted, Mutilated, Filled Sites?

- What to do with a site that is already in trouble and there's not alternative area?
- Excavating compacted soil
- Ripping the soil to loosen
- Activities are done during dry soil conditions
- Time?



Pictures and problems



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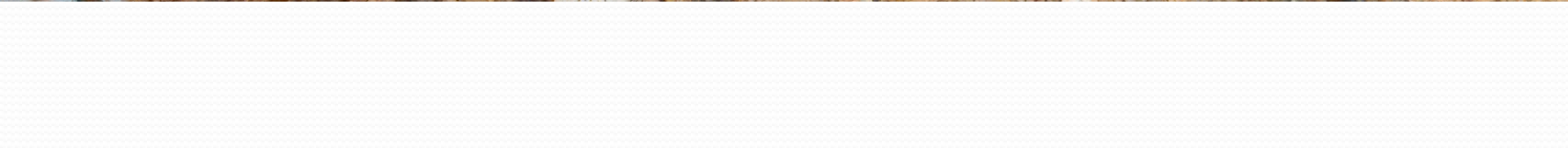


4/13/06















4/3/08

I SEE SOME PEOPLE CANT
READ THE SIGN. KEEP OUT!
ENTER AT OWN RISK. DEATH
WILL OCCUR. TRESPASSERS
& THIEVES WILL BE SHOT.

Questions???

