Private Septic Systems

In Woodbury County, the Siouxland District Health Department holds the primary responsibility for regulation of private septic systems serving 4 homes or fewer or less than 15 people. Siouxland District Health oversees any individuals, homeowners, or contractors installing systems to ensure compliance with the minimum state standards developed by the DNR. Chapter 69: Onsite Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

The DNR standards specify siting and construction requirements relative to the primary and secondary treatment portions of the sewage disposal systems as well as minimum depth to groundwater, minimum separation distances to potable water sources, and maximum percolation rates for soils. The DNR standards are primarily a prescriptive code giving design criteria for each alternative type of secondary treatment system permitted. The Siouxland District Health Department does have the authority to allow alternative or innovative performance based systems.
Any individual, homeowner or contractor seeking to install a private sewage system is required to obtain a permit to construct systems in Woodbury County. Currently, septic systems require both a pre-construction site inspection and post-construction inspection prior to back filing to verify compliance with code requirements.

Click here to obtain an application for a Private Septic System for Woodbury County.

To obtain more information on Time of Transfer Inspections, please refer to the following resources:

- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Iowa Onsite Waste Water Association