



Septic Improvement Projects Project Application

CRITERIA FOR FUNDING

The Uinta County Conservation District (UCCD) currently has funding available to provide cost-share assistance to homeowners wishing to make septic improvements in the Blacks Fork/Smiths Fork Rivers and Bear River drainages. The purpose of this project is to develop and install structural and/or management practices that will assist in reducing water quality impacts from failing or inadequate septic systems. This program is designed to assist homeowners who voluntarily wish to address septic systems they believe may be negatively impacting water quality. In addition, the program will help homeowners minimize their risk for regulatory action.

As part of this program, technical assistance from UCCD, the Uinta County Compliance Officer and the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) may be provided to assist the homeowner in the planning, design, and engineering of the project. Other qualified personnel may be used at the homeowner's discretion to provide technical support. However, homeowner must contact the county to begin the permitting process before any work begins. All work must meet Uinta County and WDEQ standards and specifications to be considered for funding. An agreement between UCCD and the homeowner must be signed upon board approval.

Applications will be prioritized and selected by the Uinta County Conservation District Board of Supervisors. *Projects that are at risk for directly contaminating the Blacks Fork, Smiths Fork, or Bear Rivers or their major tributaries will be a higher priority than those on canals, ditches, draws or other minor waterways.* Homeowners are encouraged to meet with the Conservation District Board of Supervisors during the approval process.

Although not required, an information and education component, which might include a tour of the project, is highly recommended as a way to facilitate broad-scale change throughout the watershed. However, the Conservation District does not wish to exclude projects with a high potential for improving water quality that might not otherwise participate.

The level of treatment to be achieved will target zero percent failure on current Uinta County/WDEQ standards for septic systems.

The criteria used when prioritizing Septic Improvement Project applications include:

1. The location in respect to impaired waterbodies
2. An assessment of the landowner's risk or need for improvement
3. Water quality concerns/potential benefits
4. Cost effectiveness

The cost-share program is based on three tiers of funding, dependent upon the type of project:

Tier One: 75% cost share on systems that are directly discharging into the mainstem of the river or a major tributary. The funding will be cost shared at 75% from the Conservation District and 25% match from the homeowner (hard dollars or in-kind; ex. homeowner time, labor, and expenses) Examples include straight pipe from house to river with no septic tank, malfunctioning tank with no leach field and effluent running directly into river.

Tier Two: 50% cost share on systems discharging into live water that has the potential to reach the river. The funding will be cost shared at 50% from the Conservation District and 50% match from the homeowner, can be hard dollars or in-kind match. Examples include malfunctioning systems on a lesser tributary or other surface water that does flow into the mainstem. May not have a tank, or no leachfield, but the effluent must travel a reasonable distance to get to the water.

Tier Three: 25% cost share on other systems that are reaching live water, but that water does not have the direct potential to reach the river mainstem. The funding will be cost shared at 25% from the Conservation District and 75% match from the homeowner, can be hard dollars or in-kind match. Examples are systems discharging into an irrigation ditch, or canal, or pond or other body of water that does not directly affect the river mainstem.

Other Criteria:

1. The total project cost cannot exceed \$8,500 without individual justification and authorization by the Uinta County Conservation District.
2. A qualified person will review the project before final priority setting to ensure the project site is correlated to water quality impacts.

***Note:** the initial cost of the project is the responsibility of the homeowner. The District will reimburse the homeowner upon receiving a copy of the signed, final approval permit from the county and all applicable receipts for the actual costs of the project.*

Please fill out the attached project application and homeowner self assessment as thorough as possible and return to the Conservation District. Once the District receives your application, you will be contacted to set up an appointment for a site visit by District personnel.

If your application is selected for funding by UCCD, you will be required to submit a copy of the final use permit, signed by the county, a W-9 form for tax purposes, and all receipts, invoices (marked paid in full) and any other documentation of expenditures before any payment will be made by UCCD.

NOTE: THIS PROGRAM IS BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME.

Uinta County Conservation District
Septic Improvement Projects
PROJECT APPLICATION

Homeowner/Operator

Technical Contact Person

Address

Address

Phone

Phone

Project name and brief description: _____

Location of the project: (please attach a sketch of the operation's layout ie: location of house, roads, water sources, streams, wells, etc.)

Waterbodies potentially impacted: _____

Distance to surface water: _____ Groundwater depth(if known) _____

Year septic system was installed (if known): _____

Potential Water Quality Concerns: Include any additional narratives, photographs, drawings, etc. if available. In addition, please include any water quality information supporting the need for the project if available.

What are the current issues with your septic system?

Planned date of project implementation: Initiated: _____ Completed: _____

Amount of cost share funds requested:\$ _____ Estimated total project cost:\$ _____

If application is selected, a more detailed project cost will be required.

Possible Information/Education efforts(recommended to demonstrate value of improvements):
Yes ___ No ___

The Uinta County Planner has been contacted and the permit process has been initiated: Yes ___ No ___

Signature of Homeowner: _____ Date _____

Permission is given to the Uinta County Conservation District/Steering Committee to do an on-site visit to ensure criteria are met for project. The District will notify homeowner in advance to set up date & time of visit.
Initial here _____

Return completed application to: Uinta County Conservation District
P.O. Box 370
Lyman, WY 82937

Evaluating Your Septic System Homeowner Self-assessment

	Septic System Features	Higher Risk (H)	Lower Risk (L)	Indicate with H or L
1.	Can you locate your septic tank?	No	Yes	
2.	Is there a clean out between the house and the septic tank?	No	Yes	
3.	Can you locate your leach field?	No	Yes	
4.	What is the distance from the septic system to surface waters? (canals, streams, rivers, etc.)	Less than 100 feet away	More than 100 feet away	
5.	Does terrain slope towards or away from surface water?	Toward	Away	
6.	What is the slope of the terrain?	Steep to Moderate	Flat	
7.	What are the soil types?	Gravelly or rocky soils that water runs easily through or very tight, clayey soils that water cannot penetrate	Medium textured soils that allow water infiltration	
8.	What is the distance to any water wells?	Less than 100 feet away	More than 100 feet away	
9.	Is the groundwater from any such well used for human drinking water?	Yes	No	
10.	Is an impermeable surface such as concrete, asphalt or brick located over the leach field?	Yes	No	
11.	Trees, large shrubs or other plants with extensive root systems observed in the vicinity (10 feet) of the leach field?	Yes	No	
12.	Heavy objects (e.g. cars); or evidence from such objects (e.g. tracks and impressions) are in the vicinity (i.e. directly over) the leach field?	Yes	No	

13.	Are there one or more of the following signs of system malfunction present? <input type="checkbox"/> Septic Odors <input type="checkbox"/> Ponding or wastewater breakout <input type="checkbox"/> Burnt out grass or ground staining over the leach field <input type="checkbox"/> Patches of lush green grass over the leach field <input type="checkbox"/> Pipes exposed at or near the ground surface <input type="checkbox"/> Cracks or signs of leakage in risers and lids	Yes	No																									
14.	Stormwater, sump pumps, foundation drains or roof runoff is diverted to flow into the septic system?	Yes	No																									
15.	An apparent cave-in or exposed component was identified?	Yes	No																									
16.	Was the septic system pumped within the last 5 years?	No	Yes																									
17.	Is wastewater discharged through a straight pipe into stream or man-made means of conveyance? (no tank or leach field)	Yes	No																									
18.	Determine the relationship between your septic tank size and the size of your household. If you don't know the size of your septic tank, rank yourself as High.	<u>Adequacy of Septic Tank Size</u>																										
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Tank Size</th> <th colspan="3">Number of Bedrooms</th> </tr> <tr> <th>1-3</th> <th>4</th> <th>5</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><1000 gal</td> <td>H</td> <td>H</td> <td>H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1000 gal</td> <td>L</td> <td>H</td> <td>H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1250 gal</td> <td>L</td> <td>L</td> <td>H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1500 gal</td> <td>L</td> <td>L</td> <td>L</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Tank Size	Number of Bedrooms			1-3	4	5	<1000 gal	H	H	H	1000 gal	L	H	H	1250 gal	L	L	H	1500 gal	L	L	L	
Tank Size	Number of Bedrooms																											
	1-3	4	5																									
<1000 gal	H	H	H																									
1000 gal	L	H	H																									
1250 gal	L	L	H																									
1500 gal	L	L	L																									

If the response to a specific question falls in between the Higher Risk and Lower Risk categories, please leave the corresponding self-assessment block blank. If after completing the self-assessment you discover the majority of your responses fall into a high risk category, it is recommended that you seek further assistance by contacting the Uinta County Conservation District at 787-3070. Even if you have marked only a few in the high risk category, it is recommended that you explore options to address the potential risk.