

The Newton County Wastewater Treatment Systems Ordinance #95-6 originally went into effect September 1995 and was revised May 1, 1997.

Recently the Ordinance has undergone additional revisions in May 2022 for fees adjustments and July 2022 for SECTION 7. REGISTRY OF PERSONS AND BUSINESSES ENGAGED IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS PROJECTS.

**7.03** A homeowner may install the wastewater treatment system serving their primary residence once the homeowner demonstrates proper knowledge of installing a wastewater treatment system by passing an examination given by the Newton County Health Department.

Under this ordinance there is no land/acreage requirements, however certain procedures and rules shall be followed.

A complete site evaluation (soil morphology) determines the amount of lateral lines needed and trench depth. Using this information with the setback distances from **Table 1** (below) the amount of land needed can be determined.

**TABLE 1 SETBACK DISTANCES**

Minimum Distance in Feet From:	Tanks (1)	Disposal Area (2)	Lagoon (single family)
Private water supply well	50	100	100
Public water supply well (new construction)	300	300	300
Non-community type well (new construction)	300	300	300
Existing public wells (existing systems)	100	100	100
Classified stream, lake or impoundment*	50	50	50
Stream or open ditch (3)	25	25	25
Property lines	10	10	75
Building foundation	5	15	15
Basement**	15	25	25
Basement – walk-out side**	5	15	15
Water line under pressure	10	10	10
Suction water line	50	100	100
Upslope interceptor drains	---	10	10
Top of slope of embankments or cuts of 2 feet or more vertical height	---	20	20
Other soil absorption system except repair area	---	20	20
Underground swimming pools***	15	15	15
Caves, springs, or sinkhole rims	50	100	500
Known mineshafts and abandoned wells (4)	150	150	150

Number of Bedrooms

Minimum Liquid Capacity Gallons

1 to 3	1000
4	1250
5	1500

Note: These figures provide for use of garbage grinders, automatic clothes washers and other household appliances.

For six (6) or more bedrooms the tank shall be sized on the basis similar to an establishment.

- (1) Includes tanks, intermittent sand filters, and dosing chambers
- (2) Includes subsurface absorption systems. Does not include wastewater stabilization ponds (lagoons).
- (3) Tanks & subsurface absorption systems shall never be located in the drainage area of a sinkhole.
- (4) Unplugged, abandoned wells or well with less than 80' of casing depth. All abandoned wells must be sealed in accordance with the Division of Geology & Land Survey (DGLS) instructions.

\*A classified stream is any stream that maintains permanent flow or permanent pools during drought periods and support aquatic life.