

How to Decommission Your Pit Privy



Jefferson County has very few permitted pit privies. Most were installed prior to any permit requirement. Take this quick quiz about any privy located on your property!

Is the privy location on a particular site near an area subject to seasonal flooding?

Is the waste level in the pit less than two feet below the surface of the ground?

Is there any evidence of water in the pit?

Was the pit ever moved from the original permitted location?

Was the pit privy installed without a permit after 1970?

If you answered yes to any of the above, it is time to decommission your pit privy! A pit shall be decommissioned by placing lime on any recent sewage, filling the pit with clean soil to the surface of the ground, and removing the toilet seat. In addition, JCPH shall be informed when a pit toilet is decommissioned so that it can inactivate the associated Septic Operations and monitoring (SOM) case and remove the onsite septic monitoring fee assessed with the owner's annual tax statement.

Or you can always call in the pros! You can find a list of professionals at

<https://jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/655/Certified-Septic-System-Professionals>