

Kelle's Creek Watershed Septic System Inspection Program



VB Valley Branch
Watershed District

Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD) Septic System Inspection Application Steps

The Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD) has obtained a State of Minnesota Clean Water Fund grant to develop a voluntary septic system inspection program for all properties within the Kelle's Creek watershed in Afton, Minnesota. This program is entirely voluntary; owners who wish to participate must complete and submit an application to the VBWD to begin the inspection process. If, upon inspection, a septic system is found to be noncompliant, Washington County, on behalf of the City of Afton, may order the system to be replaced or upgraded.

Six steps for participating in the VBWD Septic System Inspection Program

- 1 Determine whether your property is located within the Kelle's Creek watershed and if you are qualified to participate in the septic system inspection program.
- 2 If your property is located within the Kelle's Creek watershed, complete the VBWD Septic System Inspection Application form (below). Note: you must be the **property owner** to apply for this program. Make sure that the application is complete and submit it to Barr Engineering Co. (engineers for the VBWD), as outlined in the application.
- 3 Once you have submitted the VBWD Septic System Inspection Application, Barr Engineering Co. will coordinate with state-certified septic system inspectors to begin the inspection process. The septic system inspector will contact you (typically within two weeks of receiving the application) to coordinate a time for your system inspection. The inspector may ask you to provide any information you have regarding your septic system and ask that you locate the septic tank and soil treatment area on your property.
- 4 Once your septic system has been inspected, the inspector has 15 days to file the inspection report with Washington County. A copy of the report will also be provided to you (the landowner) and the VBWD. If the system is determined to be compliant, the copy of the inspection report will serve as the certificate of compliance and no further action will be necessary. If your system is determined to be noncompliant, the inspection results will be reviewed further by Washington County. Upon this additional review, the County may send you (the property owner) a notice of noncompliance and an order to replace or upgrade the septic system.

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If you receive an order to upgrade/replace your septic system, you will be required to perform the necessary upgrades to or replacement of the system within the time frame outlined in the City of Afton Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance.

As the property owner, you will be responsible for:

- Costs associated with the system design by a state-licensed septic system designer.
- Obtaining construction bids from septic system installation contractors and the costs associated with the replacement of the septic system.
- Obtaining a permit from Washington County for the replacement of the septic system and associated permit fees.

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There are sources of financial assistance to help alleviate the financial burden of septic system upgrades. Please see the [Washington County website](#) for information on their low-income grant and low-interest loan programs.

Additionally, the VBWD has established a cost-share program for the replacement of noncompliant septic systems in the Kelle's Creek watershed. This program will cover 25% of the estimated replacement cost, up to \$5,000. Please see the [VBWD Septic System Cost-Share Application](#) for the Kelle's Creek watershed for more details.



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Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD) Septic System Inspection Application

To be completed by VBWD

Date received: _____

Return application to:

Jen Koehler
Barr Engineering Co. (Engineers for VBWD)
4300 MarketPointe Drive
Bloomington, MN 55435
jkoehler@barr.com

Project and contact information

Name of landowner/applicant

Street address

City

State

Zip

Parcel identification number (if known)

Phone(s)

E-mail address(es)

Preferred method of contact (phone or email)

Preferred contact day/time

Mailing address (if different from above)

Property and septic system information

Property address

Year home built

Year home purchased

Number of bedrooms

Number of bathrooms

Approximate age of septic system (if known)

When was your current system last pumped? Date(s)

Have you had your septic system inspected within the past 3 years? Yes No If yes, what year?

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Where is the septic system (septic tank and soil treatment area) located on your property?
(Type description or make a sketch in the space provided)

Certification

I/We certify that by signing this application form that the information stated on the form is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge and that I/we am/are interested in participating with the Valley Branch Watershed District in inspecting the septic system on the property listed in this application. I/we am/are the owners of the property listed in this application, and I/we give permission for a septic system inspector to enter the property listed in this application for purposes of inspecting the septic system. I/We recognize that by authorizing the inspection of the septic system on my/our property, a notice of noncompliance and order to replace the system may be issued by Washington County on behalf of the City of Afton. If so, I/we will be responsible for upgrading/replacing the system in the time frame outlined by the City of Afton ordinance.

Applicant signature _____

Date _____