

## Septic System Review following a Fire

### **Standard gravity flow systems**

Standard gravity flow systems will most likely not be affected by fire events. In cases where there is damage due to heavy equipment used to fight the fire or to clean up debris, then the system will need to be repaired by a qualified professional. Depending on the parts of the system that need to be replaced there may not be a requirement for a septic repair permit from Environmental Health. If you have a standard septic system and you are unsure of the location of the system, contact Environmental Health and we will conduct a records search of your parcel to determine the location of your system and if the repairs need a permit. Septic tanks that are crushed or cracked will need to be replaced under permit as they pose a safety hazard.

### **Alternative septic systems or septic systems requiring pumps**

Alternative septic systems and septic systems requiring pumps will require electricity to operate. Most of these systems have a control panel and other above ground equipment that may have been damaged by the fire. Systems such as these will require a qualified service provider to inspect the damages and replace the damaged parts before they can be utilized. Depending on the parts of the septic system that need to be replaced there may not be a requirement for a septic repair permit. If you have an alternative septic system or a septic system requiring pumps and you are unsure of the location of your septic system, contact Environmental Health and we will conduct a records search of your parcel to determine the type of system you have, the location of your system and if the repairs need a permit. Septic tanks or pump tanks that are crushed or cracked will need to be replaced under permit as they pose a safety hazard.