

INSTALLATION OF HOLDING TANKS IN COLLIER TOWNSHIP

The installation of a sewage holding tank is regulated by the Allegheny County Health Department On-Lot Sewage Disposal program. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Code, Title 25, Chapters 71 and 73, strictly regulate the installation of a sewage holding tank within any municipality. The Pennsylvania Code requires that the municipality adopt an Ordinance regulating holding tanks.

The Collier Township Board of Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 615, known as the Holding Tank Ordinance. This Ordinance closely follows the requirements of the Pennsylvania Code.

Holding tanks are generally approved by the Allegheny County Health Department in situations where all of the requirements of the Pennsylvania Code and Ordinance are met and the holding tank is designed to be eliminated when public sanitary sewers become available. Generally, this is within a one- to two-year period of time.

The minimum size of a holding tank is 1,000 gallons and must be a water-tight receptacle that receives only sewage, and must contain a visual and audible warning device to indicate when the tank is 75% full.. The contents of the tank must be removed by a licensed hauler and disposed of in a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)-approved disposal site.

Generally, holding tanks would only be installed for new construction when sanitary sewers are guaranteed to be developed in the area of the property within a one- to two-year period.

In un-sewered areas, an approved septic system or an approved sand mound system might be considered. These systems are also approved by and regulated by the Allegheny County Health Department.

If you are considering the installation of a holding tank, please become familiar with the Allegheny County Health Department Rules & Regulations and Ordinance No. 615.

The Municipal Authority administers Ordinance No. 615 for the Township of Collier and would be happy to provide you with a copy of the Ordinance, if requested.