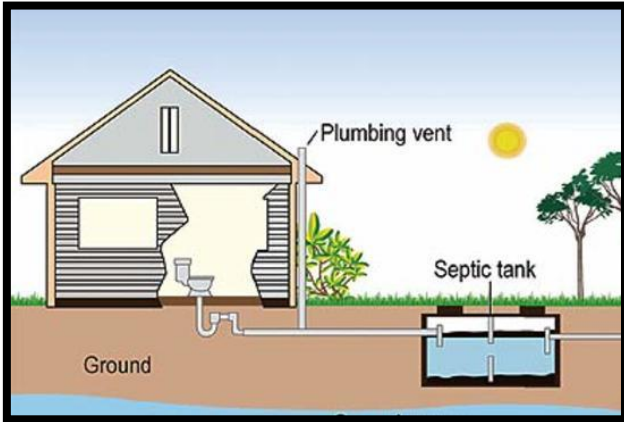
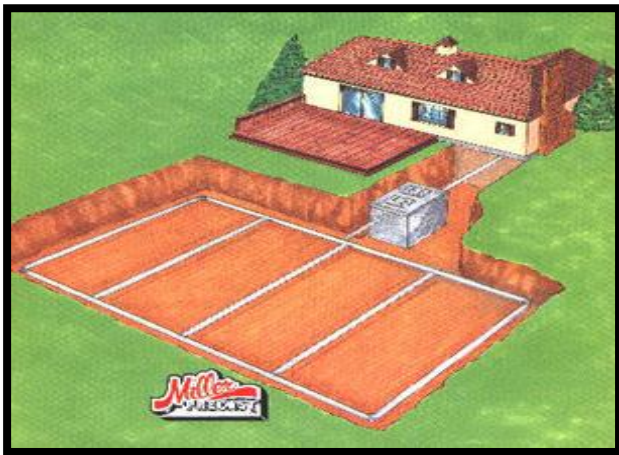
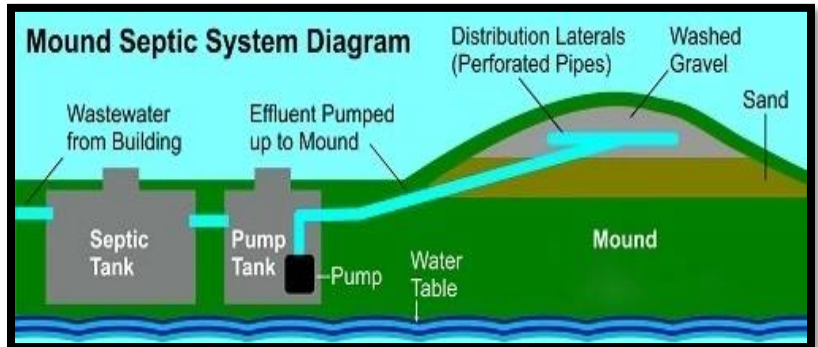


## Common ON- LOT DISPOSAL SYSTEMS (OLDS) Components



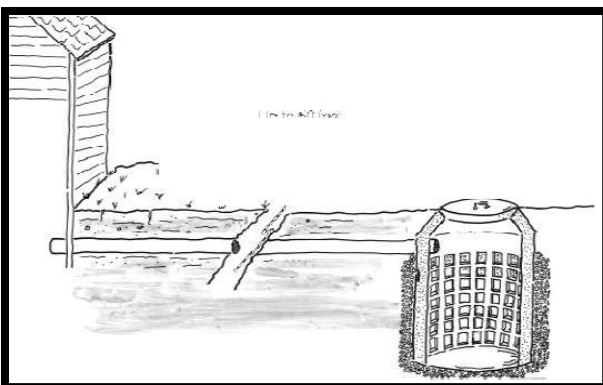
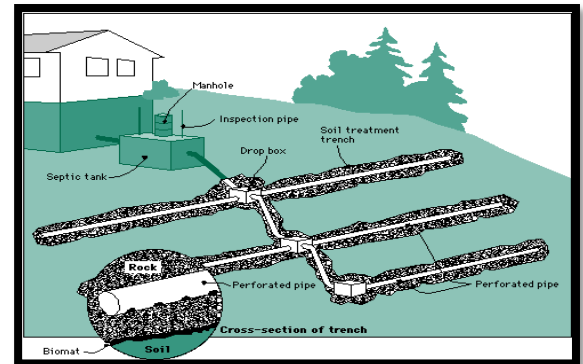
**Septic Tank-** This system is a large concrete watertight “box” also known as a treatment tank; with an inlet and outlet pipe. The septic tank treats the wastewater naturally by holding it in the tank long enough for solids and liquids to separate, forming three layers inside the tank. Fats, Oils, and Greases float to the top, solids heavier than water settle at the bottom of the tank, and a middle layer is partially clarified wastewater. The top and bottom layers remain in the septic tank where natural bacteria continue to break the solids down. The sludge and scum that cannot be broken down are retained in the tank and build up until it is pumped. The middle layer of partially clarified wastewater is sent to an additional septic tank or to the absorption area.

**Elevated Sand Mound-** This system is typically used in circumstances with reduced permeability; when rock or a water table is too close to the ground surface to allow for an in-ground system. This design utilizes a soil absorption system constructed above grade. Sand is placed on top of the ground to make up for the lack of soil depth, and the stone and pipe are placed on top of the sand. Sand fill is used to enhance treatment of the wastewater prior to entering the natural soil at the site. Sites that may be unsuitable for a conventional leaching system may be suitable for a mound system.



**In- Ground Bed-** This system is used when the property provides gentle slopes (less than 8%). An in-ground bed resembles an air mattress and includes a header. This area receives the liquid effluent from the septic tanks and distributes it over a rectangular area(s). The effluent then filters through the soil under the pipes and is treated chemically and bacterially by the components of the soil. In-ground gravity absorption areas can be placed on sites that have soils with percolation rates between 6 and 60 minutes per inch. To provide adequate treatment of the liquid discharged from your treatment tank, 4 feet of suitable soil is required under the soil absorption area.

**In- Ground Trench-** This system is used on properties that have a maximum slope of 25%. A standard trench absorption area consists of two or more excavated linear trenches in which perforated pipes or laterals distribute effluent into a layer of crushed stone under the pipes.



**Cesspools/ Seepage Pit-** This system is a cylindrical excavation with an open bottom and walls lined with unmortared stone or concrete block. Raw sewage is discharged into the cesspool from a sewer pipe connected the building drain and settles to the bottom. The remaining liquid sewage waste (effluent) is absorbed into the soil through the open bottom and porous sides of the structure. A seepage pit is very similar to a cesspool, but wastewater flows first into a septic tank, and then into a seepage pit which is a porous block or stone.

**Holding Tank-** This watertight system is used for sewage collection and storage. No treatment is provided with a holding tank. Pumping and hauling to an off-site location is required.

**DOES NOT MEET CURRENT REQUIREMENTS OF PA CODE 73: STANDARDS FOR ONLOT SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES (GRANDFATHERED)**