Alachua County Septic System Upgrade Rebate Program Fact Sheet

Program Requirements

Existing traditional septic systems in Alachua County on properties within the Santa Fe River or Silver Springs basin must be upgraded to an approved enhanced nutrient reducing system (ENR). The following types of systems are eligible for the rebate (additional details are provided in Tables 1 and 2):

- Inground nutrient reducing biofilter (INRB) systems
- NSF 245 certified aerobic treatment unit (ATU) systems that achieve 65% nitrogen removal in the tank, as listed in Table 2
- Performance Based Treatment Systems also qualify but are rare so are not included in this fact sheet.

Table 1: Comparison Table of Enhanced Nutrient Reducing Septic Systems

Parameter	INRB/Passive	Aerobic/NSF-245
Rebate Amount	Up to $10,000	Up to $16,000
Site Requirements	Larger area required for drainfield. There must be at least 36 inches of slightly limited (sandy) soils from existing ground surface. The wet season water table must be at least 36 inches below existing ground surface.	25% reduction of drainfield size is allowable when installed in sandy soil.
Permitting Considerations	Cannot be mounded and excavation with soil replacement is not authorized. Specific requirements for soil textures, colors, and wood materials (important when sourcing materials). A note must be recorded with the County Clerk in official records for the property. A template will be provided.	Requires an Operating Permit from the Health Department (currently $100) that must be renewed every other year. Please see Table 2 for a list of eligible systems.
Maintenance requirements beyond a traditional septic system	NA	Requires a maintenance contract with an entity trained on the specific technology; minimum two maintenance visits per year.
Operating Inspection Requirements	NA (but all septic systems should be pumped by a license contractor every 3-5 years to promote proper operation).	Annual Health Department inspection is required and is included in the Operating Permit fee.
System Operating Costs	NA	Electricity use comparable to running a refrigerator.

Table 2: Aerobic/NSF-245 Systems Approved for Rebate Program		
Manufacturer	**Series**	**In-Tank Nitrogen Reduction**
Bio-Microbics	BioBarrier (MBR0.5N, MBR 1.0N, MBR 1.5 N)	79%
Fuji Clean USA	CEN (5,7,10,14)	74%
Hoot Systems	ANR-450, ANR-500	85%
Infiltrator Water Technologies	ECOPOD E50-NX	80.1%
Infiltrator Water Technologies	ECOPOD NR- E50-NR	68.3%
Infiltrator Water Technologies	ECOPOD Edge500 and Edge600	78.9%
Jet	Jet-CF	67%
Norweco	Singulair TNT (TNTLP400,TNT500, GreenTNT500, TNT750, TNT1000, TNT1250, TN1500)	68%
Norweco	Singulair (R3500 and R31000)	66%
Pooda Industries	Pooda 500	70%

Table 3: List of local Septic Contractors and Certified Plumbers Participating in Alachua County		
Business Name	**Phone Number**	**email**
Beltz Septic and Portable Toilets	352-372-7448	SteveBeltzSeptic@gmail.com
BJs Septic and Site Work Inc.	352-234-0805	bjmooreseptic@gmail.com
Branson & Sons Septic	352-895-0806	Bransonandsonseptic@gmail.com
Dampiers Septic Tank, Inc.	352-378-2659	brenda.dstppw@bellsouth.net
Dwight jones Inc	904-408-9306	jonessiteprep@yahoo.com
Jones Plumbing and Septic Tank Services Inc.	352-221-4473	tommyjones20092221@yahoo.com
Modern Septic and Plumbing	352-433-6704	modernsepticandplumbing@gmail.com
Newsome Well and Septic	386-462-7745	office.newsomeseptic@gmail.com
North Florida Septic Tank Inc.	386-867-5175	nflseptictank@comcast.net
Philip Mcdonald Plumbing Inc.	904-964-3737	pmcdonaldplumbing@yahoo.com
Smith Septic	386-935-1429	smithseptic@outlook.com
*** This list is incomplete. To be added to this list please contact Stacie Greco at 352-264-6829 or Sgreco@AlachuaCounty.us**		

Program Process

1. Fill out the Interest Form to receive an email verifying eligibility and rebate amount.

2. Contact contractor (Table 3) for an estimate and permitting plan. **Make sure you mention Alachua County's Septic Tank Rebate Program,** as we do not cover traditional septic systems

3. Submit a Pre-approval form (link provided in initial eligibility email) with the name of the contractor, type of system, and estimated costs.
    a. If funds are available, you will be pre-approved and funds will be reserved for 6 months.

4. Obtain permit through Alachua County Health Department. **If your site was identified as having wetlands in step 1, your soil evaluation must be completed by the Alachua County Health Department.**

5. You will pay for your system and will be re-imbursed for the rebate unless your contractor applies for the rebate on your behalf.

6. Once all work is complete provide the following to Stacie:
    a. Completed rebate application form
    b. A copy of your FDEP Operating permit (ATU systems) or Construction Inspection Final Approval (INRB systems)
    c. Signed W-9 form
    d. Receipt(s) from septic system installer showing what has been paid and what is due.

Rebate Amount:
Additional funds have been awarded to the County and we are determining the new rebate amounts and will update materials as soon as possible.

Ineligible Expenses: The following expenses are **NOT** eligible for reimbursement:

- Tree removal work
- Landscaping and/or irrigation repair or replacement
- Permitting fees (unless part of contractor invoice)
- Operating expenses (maintenance agreements and fees)

For additional rebate information, contact Stacie Greco at 352-264-6829 or Sgreco@alachuacounty.us