THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION Onsite Wastewater Resource Center Protecting families, communities and the environment with healthy septic systems

A guide to finding septic system permits & plans through the RIDEM OWTS Permit Search

ri.gov/DEM/OWTS

New England Onsite Wastewater Training Program (NEOWTP) is part of the Onsite Wastewater Resource Center

To find a septic system permit / plan: Step 1: Do some homework

Collect the following information about the property:

- Current address (street #, street name, RI town)
 - Some street names change over time list old names too!
 - Some addresses in permits refer to telephone pole #s – these might be the same today, or they might not be

• Town's tax assessor's Plat & Lot number

- Search on the town tax assessor's database in RI, this is often using "Vision Government Solutions" webpages
- Can search for the lot on town's web GIS database (if available)
- Note: These numbers may be different today than they were 30+ years ago

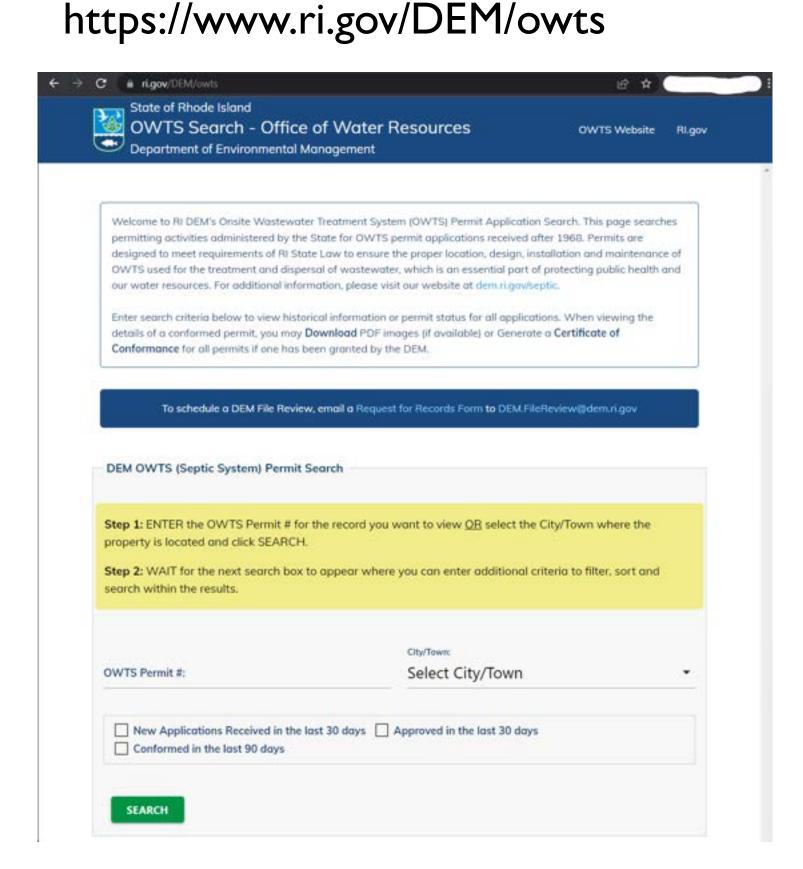
Names of past property owners / developers

- May be listed on parcel / tax card info
- May need to contact town hall to find previous owners if there are many

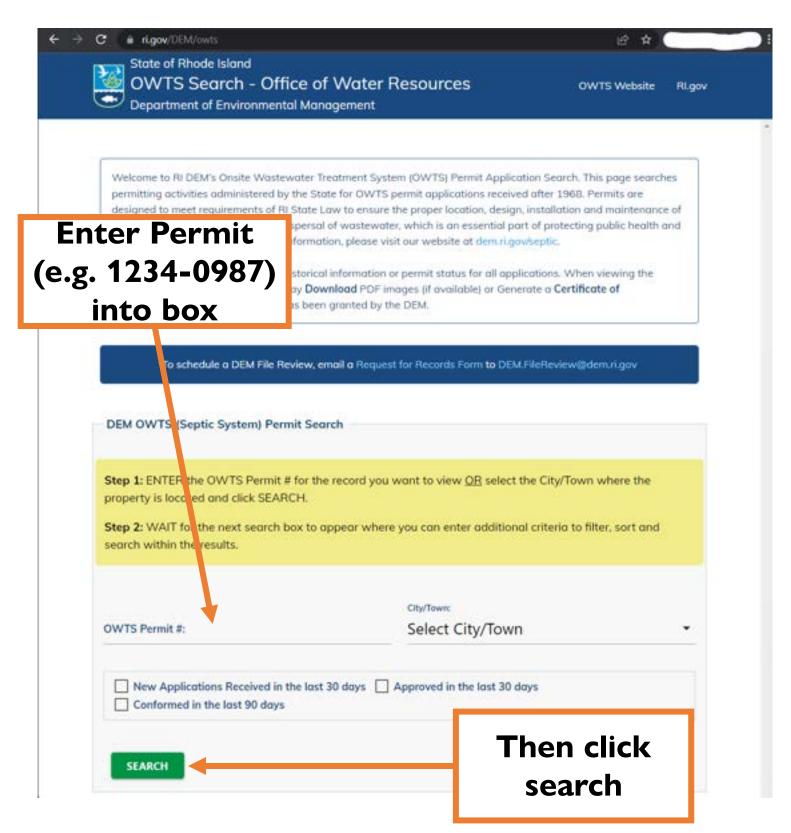
If possible... find out

- Rough age of system / year of installation / repair
- Any permit numbers associated with the system

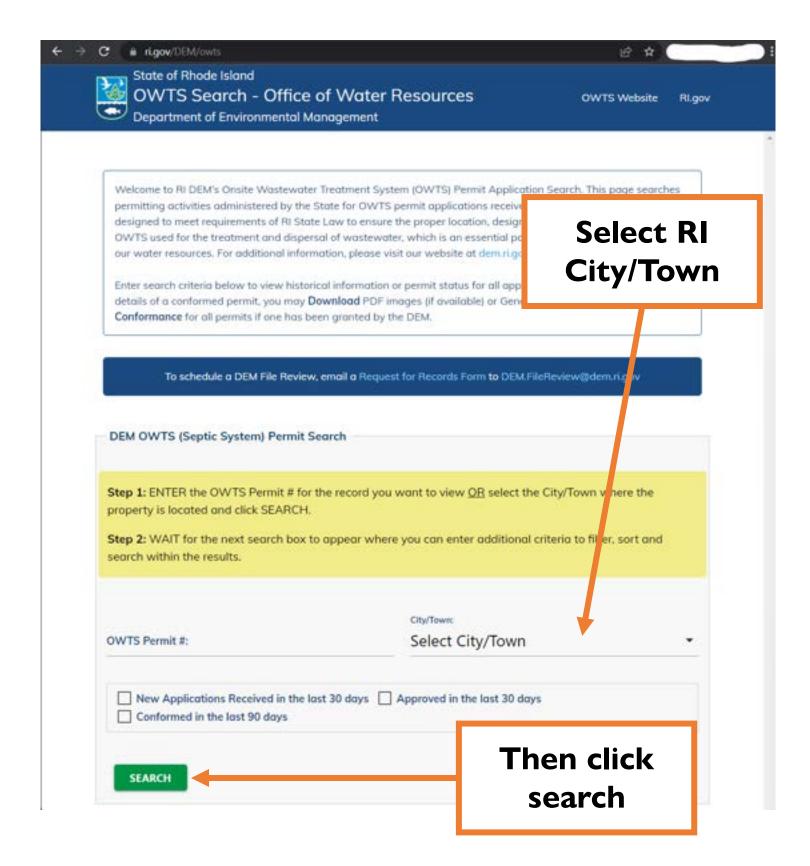
To find a septic system permit / plan: Step 2: go to



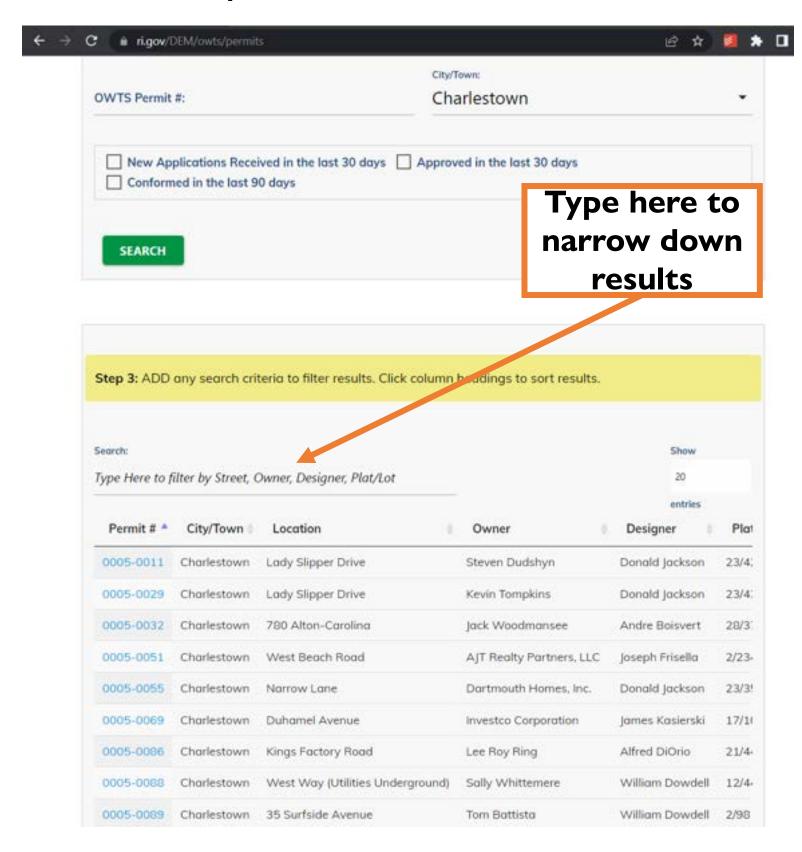
To find a septic system permit / plan: Step 3a: If you know permit # (format: [#][#][#][#]-[#][#][#]]



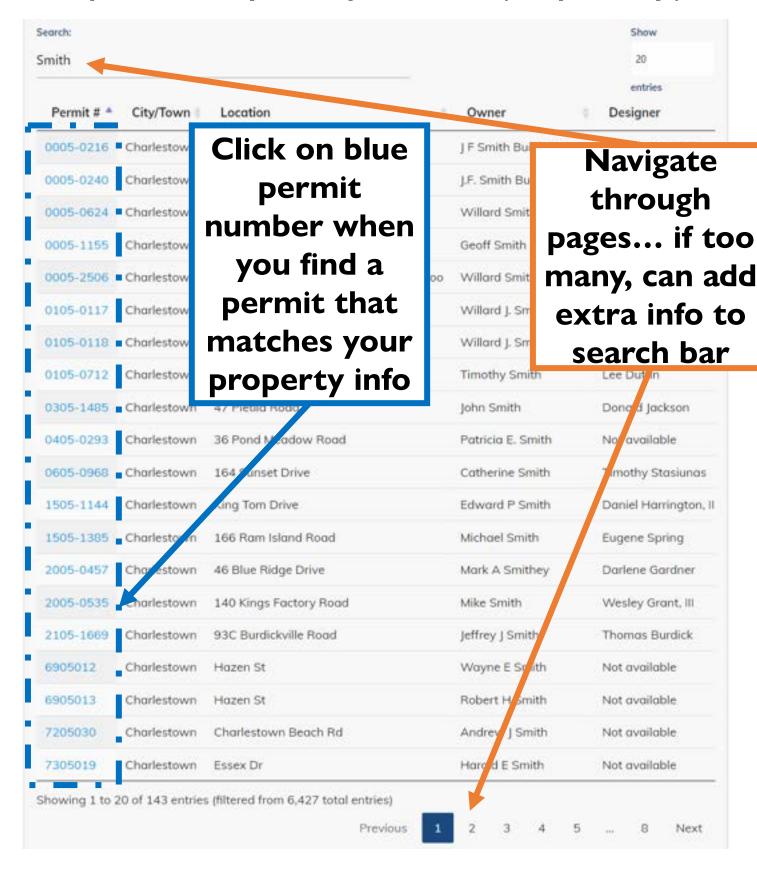
To find a septic system permit / plan: Step 3b: If you don't know permit



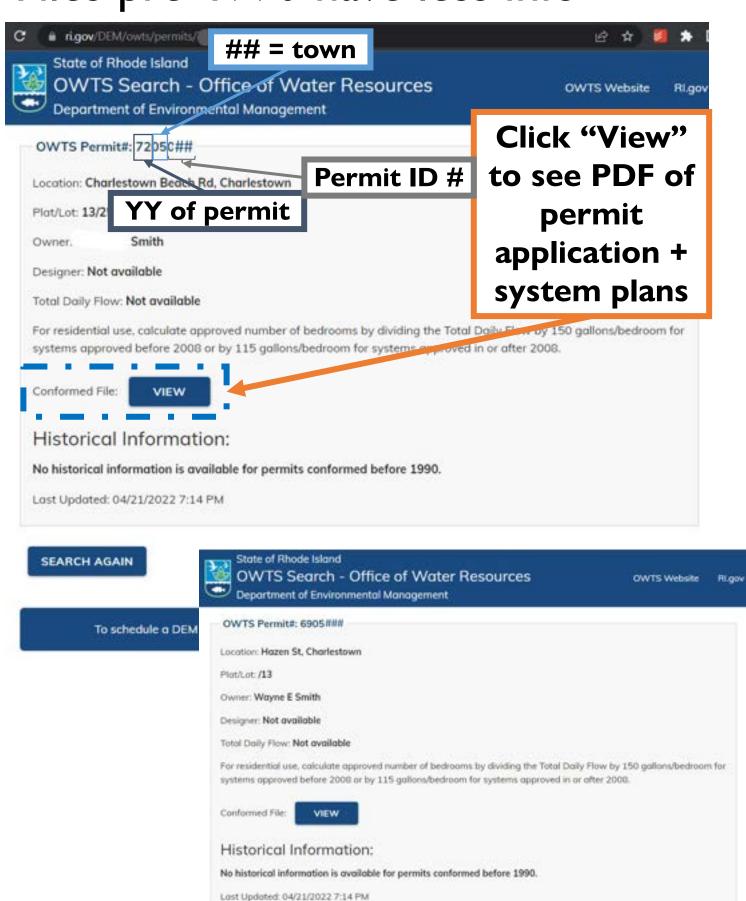
To find a septic system permit / plan: Step 4: use past owners, street address, plat/lot to filter results...



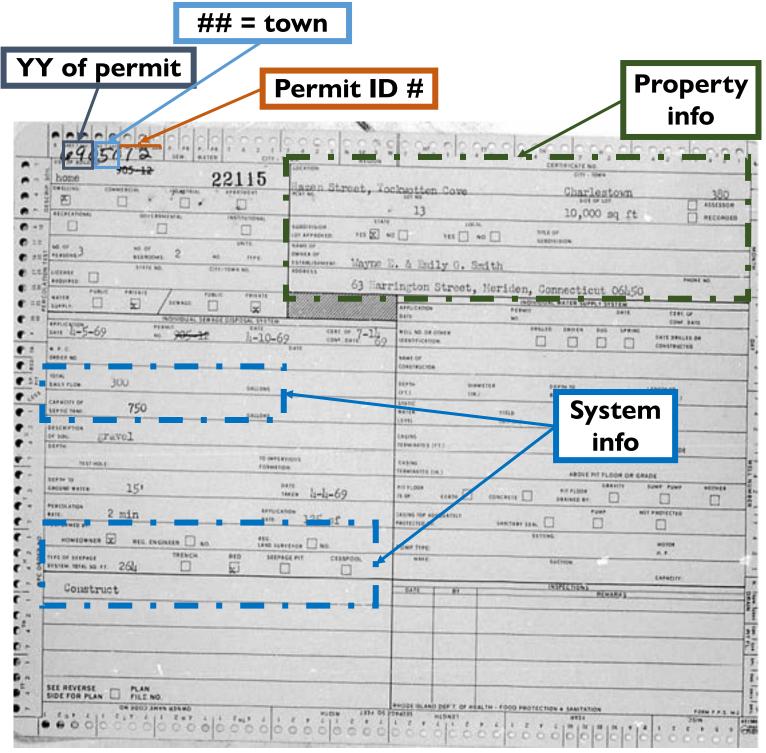
To find a septic system permit / plan: Step 5: find your permit! (hopefully)



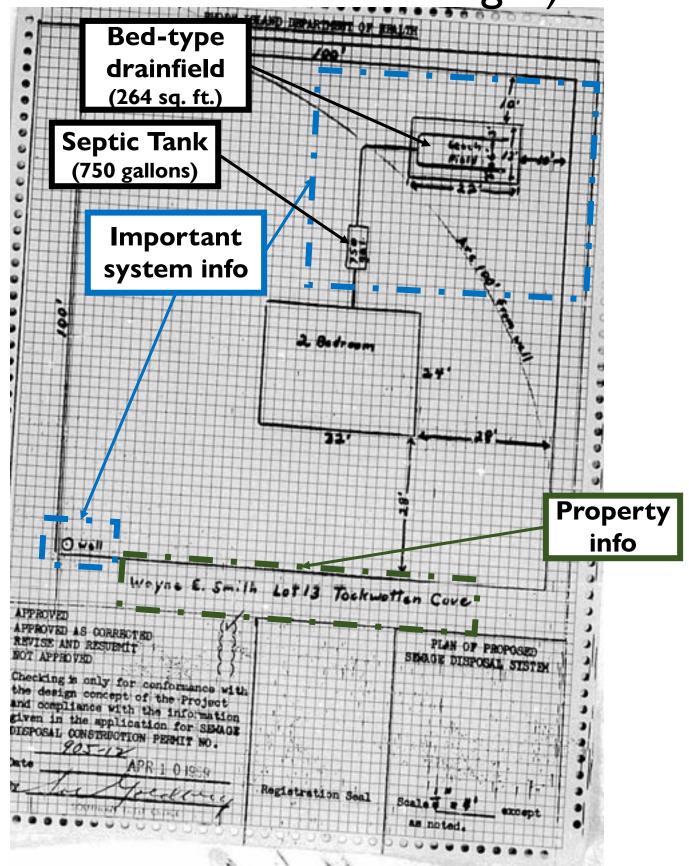
Files pre-1990 have less info



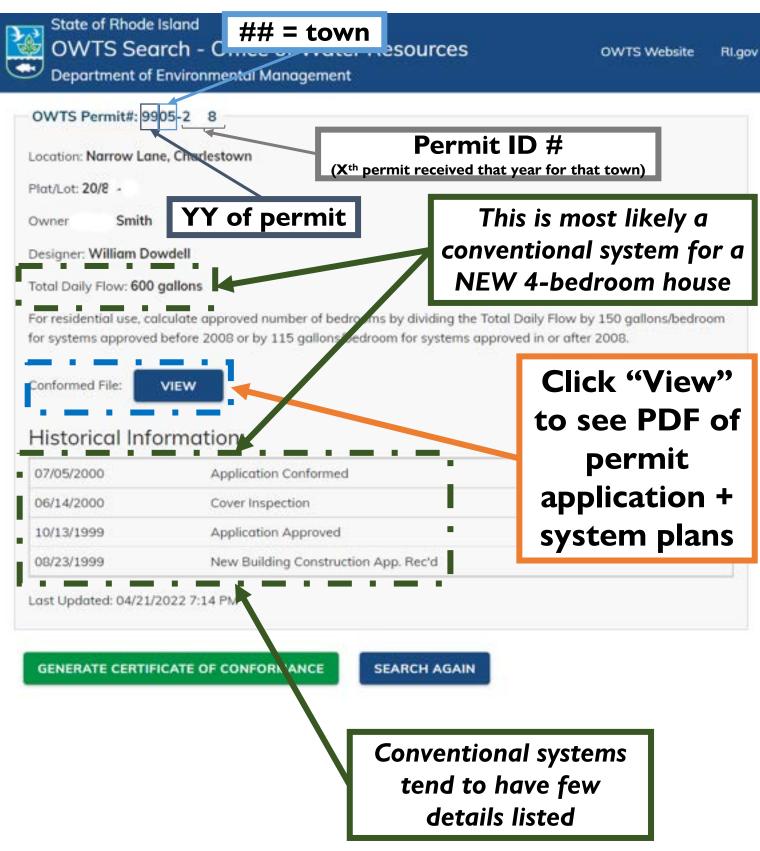
Example of permit (late 1960s – 1970s vintages)



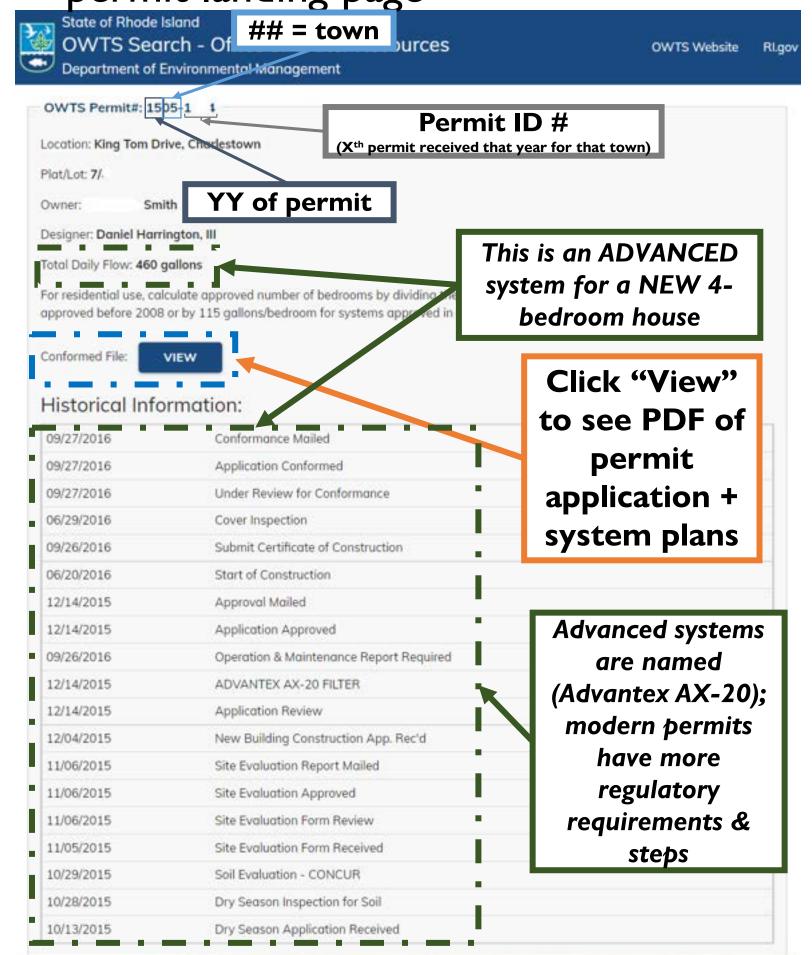
Example of permit plan (late 1960s – 1970s vintages)



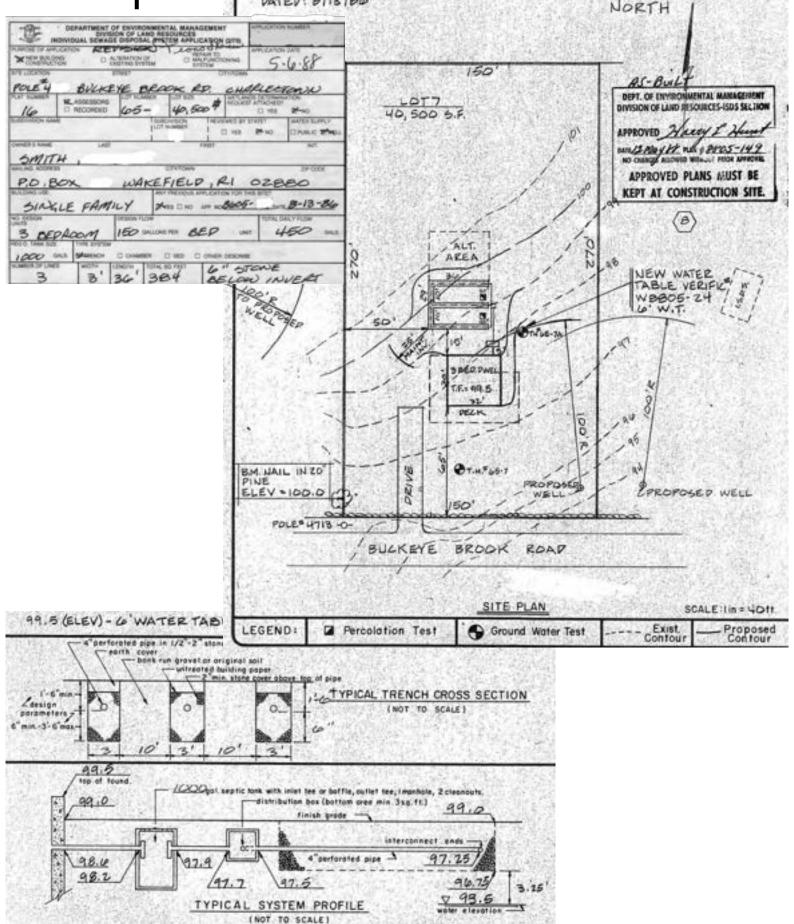
Files post-1990 have more info on permit landing page



Files post-1990 have more info on permit landing page



Example of a conventional system site plan (1980s)



Example of a conventional system certificate of construction (1980s)

| DEPARTMENT O' | E: AONHEN: | . ANAGEMENT |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| DIVISTO | OF LAND RE: | ounces |
| INDÍVIDUAL | SEWAGE DISPU | SAL SYSTEMS |
| 2.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10.10. | | |

CERTIFICATE OF CONSTRUCTION

| FOR INSTALLERS OF | INDIVIDUAL | SEWAGE DISPOS | AL SYSTEMS | |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--|-------------|
| I. JEAN A. RIEN. | REAL | . to the exte | nt that I have | performed |
| (INSTALLERS NAME PRI | NTED | | | |
| work on said system as of t | he # 2 | day of_ | MAY | |
| tify that the individual sev | age disposal | pystem as sh | own on the plan | s for |
| 8805 - /### was in | | 기업적 경기에 가는 경기를 받았다. | 유명이 그 아이지 아이를 빼앗았다. | |
| ISDS PERMIT NO.) | | | | id prems |
| such system as approved by | the Director | of Environme | ntal Management. | |
| The property is located at | | | | |
| 0/ | / | (STREET) | 42. | - 11111 |
| Charlestown | . The se | ptic tank is | located as set i | forth below |
| (CITY OR TOWN) | | • | | |
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| BUCKEYE BR | OOK ROAD | (POLE 4### | | |
| | | 0 | | |
| H. Hunt | | | 07.00 | |
| (SYSTEM INSPECTED BY) | | (INST | LLERS SIGNATURE | 7 |
| 5-20-88 | 100 | 528 | 5/24 | / |
| | | (LICENSE NO | The second liverage of | - |

Example of a conventional system TOP OF PERSONNEL - HALF MICHIGAN - MAY NO. OF THE ACT NO. - MANY site plan (1990s) FOR DEM I APPLICATION No. 9905 - 2 DATE RECEIVED 8 TYPE OF APPLICATION DISTRIBUTION, BOX MNEW BUILDING CONSTRUCTION W/BAFFLE (N-20 LOAD) DVA TECHNOLOGY DEACHY - 1,000 GALOM DEC \$ 10000 DOC BLDT - MLTT WOOD, NO. DO-S ON APPROVED DOOR NO. 9 DOT BOX NO.UT - MO.AV NO. 9 DOT BOX. NO. DOTS. THE NO. LIMIT Y LIMING 1-BOX NO. LIMIT Y LIMING 1-BOX DALTERATION TYPE OF SYSTEM DREPAIR FLOW DIFFUSERS DVARIANCE ☐TRANSFER CROSS SECTION LANE arrow SUBDIVISION LOT NUMBER U/A LOT NUMBER SUBDIVISION NAME __ RELIMINARY SUBDIVISION SUITABILITY DEM APPLICATION HISTORY PREVIOUS WATER TABLESSOS & BYES DNO APPLICATION # 9/05-DEPTH TO VERIFIED WATER TABLE 7' Now Determined Dry Scarm 905 TEST HOLE # / DATE EXCAVATED B | 6 / 29 WETLANDS WOW 200 of ISOS DIVES BNO WETLAND PERMIT DYES WHO PERMITS_ DATE OF APPROVAL rountwater Quality Certification attached? DYES BNO (Required for a system > 10,000 god.) DESIGN INFORMATION BUILDING USE: PResidential | Commercial PROP. 448 DITUSTES W/ T OF STONE ON SOCS # 1" OF STONE CHOOSE WATER SUPPLY: Opublic water Opublic well Sprivate well # OF DESIGN UNITS 4 bodewown unit DESIGN FLOW (SD) gallons per bodew (unit) TOTAL DAILY FLOW TANK SIZE 1250 gallons DESIGN PERCOLATION RATE MINIMUM REQUIRED LEACHFIELD AREA 500 LEACHFIELD TYPE DIFFY 9075 TOTAL AREA OF LEACHFIELD PROVIDED TOB SQUARE FEET BENCHMARK: HIGH POINT OF BOULDER ELEV.=107.93 (ASSUMED) **AROPOSED** 4 BEDROOM HOUSE NED-INSTALLATION FRONT VIEW SIDE VIEW PLAN VIEW OF SYSTEM

GRAPHIC SCALE

ZONING CLASSIFICATION = SETBACKS: FRONT- 50° SIDE- 35'

SCALE: 1" = 30"

REAR- 100'

Example of a conventional system certificate of construction (1990s)



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF GROUNDWATER & ISDS INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS SECTION



INSTALLER'S CERTIFICATE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR ISDS SYSTEM

APPLICATION NO. 9305-/###

| Installer's Name (Please Print) | _, to the extent that I have performed the |
|---|--|
| work on said system as of the day | of MARCH , 1996, |
| | system as shown on the plans for ISDS Permit |
| as approved by the Director of the Rhode Is Management. The property is located at (Street) | |
| or Town of Charles tow v | . The septic tank and D-Box (if any) |
| Swing ties (measurements) help locate tank & distribution box | House Suprice 3 |
| Richard Ringles | 2000 |
| Installer's Signature March 6, 1996 Date Signed | License No. |

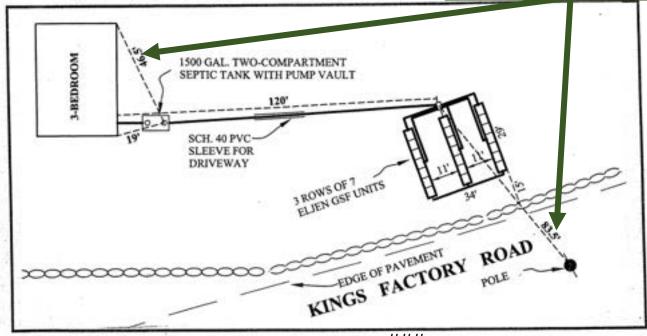
Example of a conventional system site plan (~2020)

| LITELLAND MICHIGANICATION IN | | ONSITE WASTEWATER TREAT |
|--|--|--|
| FIGURE 7: SECTION VIEW - TRENCH SYSTEM - LEVEL SITE | 1705 | FORE |
| EXISTING CRADE - | APPLICATION No. 1705 - 1 | DATE RECEIVED |
| MINISTOR! A | TYPE OF APPLICATION (| CHECK ALL THAT APPLY) |
| COUNTRY NOTICE SOL | INEW BUILDING CONSTRUCTION ☐ ALTERATION | ☐ A/E TECHNOLOGY TYPE |
| GEOGRAPH T | REPAIR | ☐ VARIANCE ☐ REDESIGN |
| - 35 6 - | A -TRANSFER | ☐ JOINT OWTS / WETLANDS PD |
| 17 | SITE INFO | RMATION |
| PROPOSES CRASE (DLT) | NO. STREET CITY | |
| D-MOV & IP-MAX. " "ZATES FARMIC | 경기를 내용하는 경기가 있다면 경기 전에 가장 되었다면 보고 그리고 있다면 가장 하는 사람이 되었다면 하는데 하는데 하는데 하다 하다. | |
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| SOUTH AND THE PROPERTY OF CONCRETE SOUTH | SUBDIVISION NAME GOUDBUR | 4 FARM |
| E STATEMENT STAT | SUBDIVISION SITE SUITABILITY CERTIFICAT | The state of the s |
| BESIGN WATER TABLE III ULLIF | OWNER INF | |
| BRITANIES BRITANIES BRITANIES | LAST NAME / FIRST | |
| | · Weck ap | NAME - RI M.I. |
| | NO. STREET CITY/TO | WN, ZIP CODE |
| 7 | RIDEM APPLICA | ATION HISTORY |
| 1 15-18 | The state of the s | |
| The state of the s | DEPTH TO APPROVED WATER TABLE 45 | HOW DETERMINED Sul BUAT |
| A Jake All Comments | TEST HOLE # _ I DATE EXCAVATED 5 123 1 17 | WETLANDS within 200' OF OWTS 2 YES NO |
| | WETLAND DETERMINATION X YES IN NO RIDEM | FILE # 1804 DATE 7 18 1 18 |
| La Sala In the Comment of the Commen | LARGE SYSTEM Q YES NO OCI FILE | |
| Zell I | DESIGN INF | |
| | BUILDING USE: A Residential Commerc | cial |
| | WATER SUPPLY: D public water D public | well 🔕 private well |
| | # OF DESIGN UNITS 3 | 7.30 |
| The state of the s | UNIT DESIGN FLOW //S gallons per QD (uni | t) TOTAL DAILY FLOW 373 gallons |
| San Mar acon | TANK SIZE 1500 gallons DESIGN LO | |
| The state of the s | LEACHFIELD TYPE FIGURE | -55F |
| A la water to the last of the | TOTAL AREA OF LEACHFIELD PROVIDED | 588 square feet |
| 19/1 | | DEM SEE INSTRUCTION |
| | / W. Ma #31 1 | |
| | January 13 | \ |
| The total and the second | 1 | |
| EDGE OF PAVEMENT | A REAL PROPERTY AND A SECOND AND A SECOND ASSESSMENT OF A SECOND ASS | |
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| KINGS | # 3 \ m | |
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| acTop. | O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O | |
| | P.O. DESCRIPTION OF THE P. LEWIS CO. | |
| | ROAD | 900c |
| | | |

Example of a conventional system certificate of construction (2021)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCESNOV 1 5 2021 PERMITTING SECTION Office of Water Resources SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS (OW IS) PROGRAM

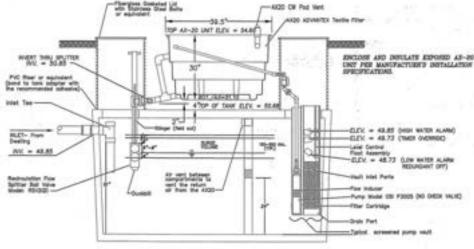
DESIGNER'S CERTIFICATE OF CONSTRUCTION FOR OWTS Permit No. 1705-1### I, CHAREE M. JACKSON as the designer of record for the OWTS installation located at in the City or Town of (Street) KINGS FACTORY ROAD hereby certify that t CHARLESTOWN Swing ties performed by the installer named below, and to the best of my informati witnessed and inspected in accordance with RIDEM/OWTS Rules, and that, (measurements) installation of the OWTS conforms with the plans, specifications, appli construction tolerances as approved by the Director of the Rhode Island help locate tank & Management. I further certify that I have documented the installation in Rules. This certification is effective as of (date): 10/22/2021 distribution box The septic tank, D-Box (if any) and leach field are located as set for

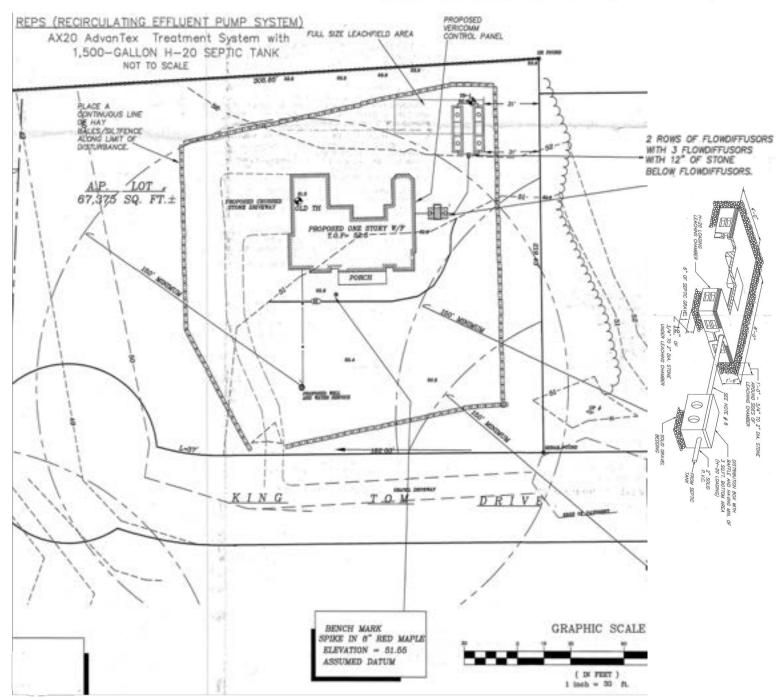


| Installer's Name SCOTT ZAROOGIAM | ### License No\\\ 6 |
|--|------------------------|
| Designer's Name CHAREE M. JACKSO | License No. 3116 |
| Designer's Signature Charles John | Date Signed 10/22/2021 |
| Designer Request of Change (DROC) Approval Date(s) | |

Example of an advanced system

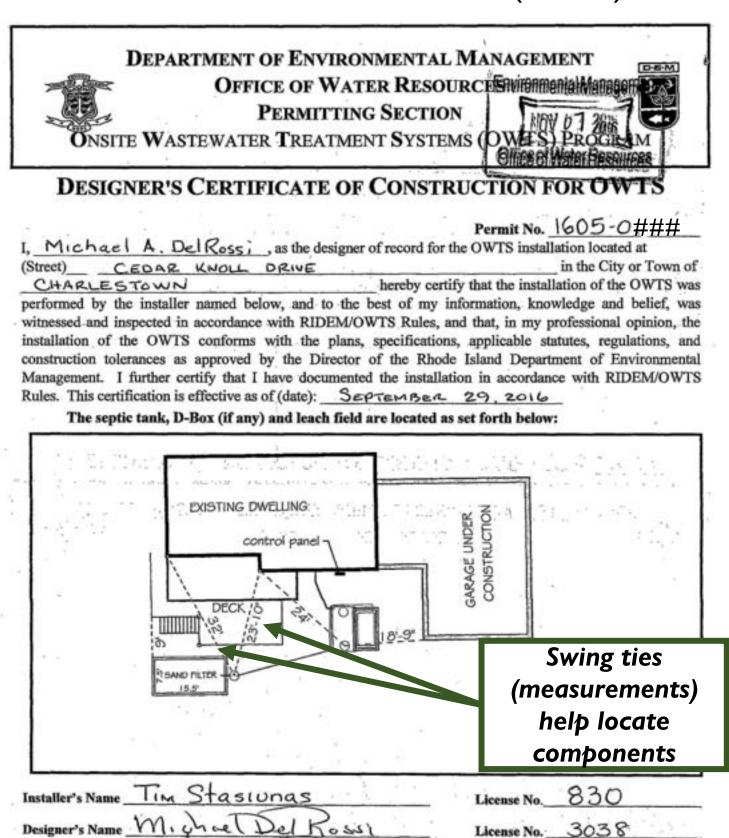
site plan





Example of an advanced system site plan MANY DESCRIPTION OF THE ORDINARY VACUUM OF THE PARTY LINES WE SHOULD BE THE SH NSPECTION WELL-1.5° PVC 1.25" PVC Wonfrom SECTION VEW Typical Pump Basin Detail FLUSHING VALVE OR THREADED END CAP 1" PVC Lateral (w/ 1/8" dis. orifices) Orlfice Shield Sand Filter -(Top View) SCALE: NONE 10 ORIFICES PER LINE. TOTAL = 50 CEDAR KNOLL DRIVE rsation with Owner APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF WATER MAIN Drain Will Be Removed Of Foundation Construction, Are No Known Existing n Drams. PROPOSED GRADE = 963 179.0 NOW THE **CURBSTOP** DASTING DRAIN LINE IS TO BE REMOVE Approx. location of water line -Inspection Port Perforated pipe wrapped in filter fibric, tapped with removable cap (4" Dia, SDR, 35). APPROX. LOCATION OF EX WELL THAT HAS BEEN ABAN EXISTING TWO BEDROOM APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF PROPOSITO DRIVENAY DWELLING WITH FULL FOUNDATION. Basement Door Threshold Typical Bottomless Sand Filter - (Cross Section) NO ADDITIONAL EL. 94.97', Top Step EL. 95.87 ROPOSED EXISTING Table Elev. = Design El. 93.37*± APPROX, LOCATION OF DRAIN L THAT HAS BEEN ABANDONED. ADVANTEX AX-20 **OSI TANE** EXISTING SEPTIC TANK MUST BE PUMPED AND REMOVED. of Filter TWO ORIFICES PER ROW TO BE TO RELEASE VACUUM IN PIPE A SET AT 1/3 AND AT 2/3 OF U 3/8" Pea Stone Erosion Control EX. IRON PI APPROX. LÒCATION OF EXISTING LEACH FIELD, IF ANY OF THE FIELD EXISTING DWELLING IS ENCOUNTERED DURING CONTRUCTION OF PROPOSED SAND FILTER IT MUST BE LOT REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH CLEAN SEPTIC GRAVEL.

Example of an advanced system certificate of construction (2016)



Designer's Signature

Designer Request of Change (DROC) Approval Date(s)

3038

Date Signed 10 -31 - 16

License No.

Tips for finding an OLD septic system permit / plan (pre-1990):

- Permits don't exist pre-1968
- Many plans (especially subdevelopments) don't have actual addresses – go by pole # or subdivision lot #.
 - Look at as many neighboring/nearby plans as you can and look at their location relative to today's address – often times you can figure out which lot is yours by looking at the parcel shape, orientation (which way is N?), and general location relative to roads and intersections
 - Sometimes road names change
- Beware of town's tax assessor's Plat & Lot number
 - Not always tied to plans; some towns re-numbered their lots in the past ~30 years. The town may be able to help ID your old parcel ID
- Names of past property owners / developers
 - May be listed on parcel / tax card info, but may need to contact town hall to find previous owners if property has changed hands many times OR original owner has had property for 40+ years
- If you can't find a permit...
 - Some permits got lost in some of the transitions from paper to microfilm to digital files at DEM...
 - Your local town hall may have info if not the plans, perhaps they have maintenance/inspection records and info that may provide clues
- If you find your permit number, but aren't able to look at PDF plans, you can request that DEM digitize them fill out a records request (directions on permit website)
- Don't trust previous owners' memories of where the system might be – memory is tricky, and you might have major regrets if the system is not where it is remembered to be!