

Millis Board of Health
TITLE 5 SEPTIC SYSTEM INSPECTION POLICY

The Board of Health voted to institute the following policy for the inspection of septic systems in the Town of Millis by State Certified Septic System Inspectors. The provisions of this policy are in addition to the septic system inspection requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection. This policy becomes effective immediately.

- Distribution box MUST be excavated and inspected as part of the Title 5 inspection. Per DEP Policy, video cameras shall not be used in place of an excavation / inspection of the D-box.
- Groundwater level must be established through direct observation of the system, actual site conditions of the immediate area, excavation at the site and/or through legitimate Board of Health records (perc tests). If septic system was built prior to the 1978 Title 5 code, and no perc test records are available, environmental conditions (e.g. observed open water) may be used if such conditions are within one hundred fifty (150) feet of the soil absorption system. For the purpose of septic system inspections, environmental conditions DO NOT include the lack of water and/or sumps in basements, reports of prior work in the street or area unless such work is within one hundred fifty (150) feet of the soil absorption system, legitimately documented and included as part of the report.
- All cesspools (including overflow and greywater cesspools), seepage pits, and “beehives” must be pumped out completely and allowed to stand for six (6) hours and reinspected for groundwater inflow. The depth of any inflow must be included on the report.
- All septic tanks must be pumped after initial inspection as part of the inspection report.
- Completed septic system inspection reports must be turned in to the Board of Health Office at least fourteen (14) days prior to the sale of a house.
- Septic System Inspectors operating in the Town of Millis are responsible for correcting any deficiencies found by the Board of Health in a septic system inspection report.

In the event that an inspection can not be completed as a result of the above parameters, the inspector shall contact the Millis Board of Health for directions as to how to proceed. Inspections that have not been conducted following the above parameters will be rejected.