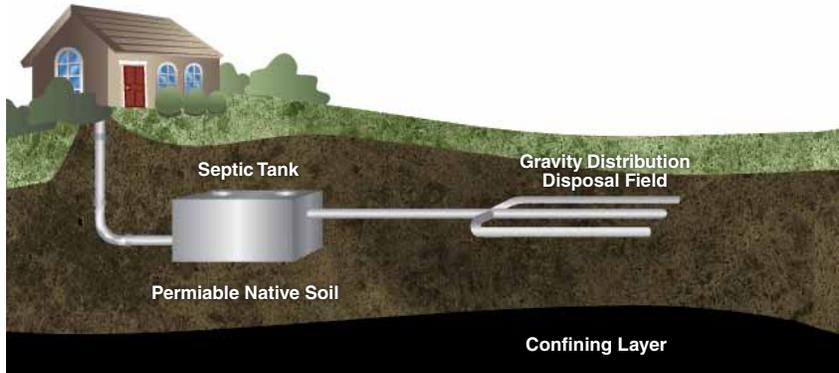


Types of Septic Systems

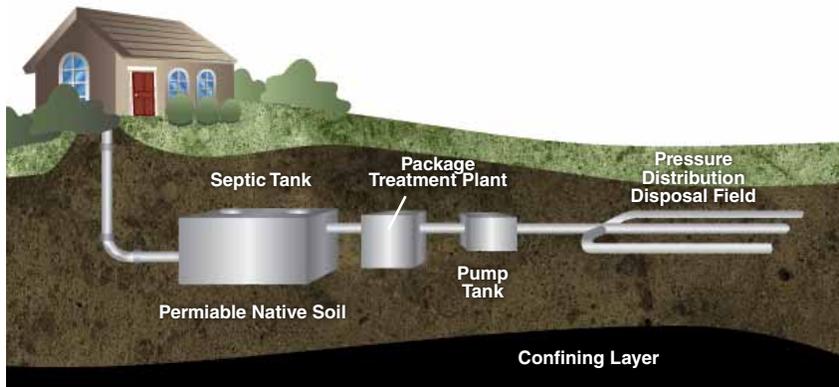
There are three types of wastewater treatment systems:

- **Type 1 – septic tank**
- **Type 2 – secondary wastewater (package) treatment**
- **Type 3 – advanced wastewater treatment with disinfection**

Type 1 system:



Type 2 system:



Type 1 and Type 2 treatment systems are intended for use on properties with ideal or near-ideal soil conditions for ground disposal. The primary difference between Type 1 and 2 systems is that Type 2 systems also include a wastewater treatment system, thereby requiring less drainfield pipe and, consequently, less land area than a Type 1 system. However, Type 2 systems have a greater treatment cost than Type 1 systems.

A *Type 3* treatment and disposal system is custom designed and intended for use with properties that have poor or very marginal site soil conditions not suitable for Type 1 or Type 2 systems. Type 3 systems treat to a higher water quality standard than Type 2 systems, and they are also required to disinfect the treated wastewater before it is distributed to the drainfield.

Selecting the wrong system can be a costly mistake. Be sure to consult an Authorized Person in selecting the right system for your property.

Drywells

A drywell is a simple pit or hole in the ground, open to the soil at its sides and bottom in which residential wastewater is deposited. It is typically made from concrete or plastic or may be constructed as a pit filled with gravel, or other debris. Some properties may have a septic tank that receives wastewater from the house before it goes into the drywell. In this instance, the drywell acts as a replacement to the drainfield (as in a Type 1 system).

Unlike a drainfield, drywells extend vertically into the permeable native soil with holes or pores that allow the partially treated wastewater to seep into the surrounding soil. If the drywell is located in wet or poorly drained soils or within the water table, the effluent can enter the groundwater untreated or back up into your home.

Many older properties within the CSRD had drywells installed before regulations were introduced. The cumulative impact of these drywells is significant. Population growth and increased household water use means more wastewater is making its way into drywells and into the local environment without being properly treated. ***Continuing to use a drywell places tremendous stress on the local environment and groundwater, as well as posing a potential health hazard to your family and a risk to property values.***