

Septic 101 Hosted by the Rye Building Department

Are you a Rye homeowner looking to protect your property value and avoid thousands of dollars in unexpected repair costs? Join us for our upcoming **Septic 101 Class for Homeowners**, a comprehensive session designed to demystify your home's private wastewater treatment system. In New Hampshire, over 60% of households rely on individual septic systems to safely process waste, making proper homeowner operation a critical part of protecting both personal property and local water quality. This introductory workshop covers everything you need to know about the basic mechanics of your system, essential maintenance strategies, and state-specific compliance guidelines.

During this class, attendees will discover exactly how a standard septic setup works – from the initial breakdown of solids by beneficial bacteria inside the buried septic tank to the final filtration of clear effluent through the soil in the Effluent Disposal Area (EDA) commonly known as the leach field.

This class will highlight local regulations enforced by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). You will learn about the **state recommendation to check scum and sludge levels annually and pump your tank every 2 to 5 years** via a licensed septage hauler to prevent severe system failure. Rye requires some properties to submit pump-out records more frequently, especially for AOS systems. We will also cover essential state regulatory updates, such as the mandatory septic evaluation laws for property transfers within the 250-foot protected shoreland zone, which is vital information if you plan to buy or sell a home near New Hampshire's coastline, marshes and ponds.

Finally, our instructor Tom Canfield, will teach you how to spot early warning signs of a malfunctioning system – including sluggish drains, gurgling pipes, sewage smells, or unusually lush, soggy patches of grass over your leach field – so you can intervene before minor issues escalate into a public health nuisance. Whether you are a first-time homebuyer or a long-term resident, this class will provide the actionable knowledge, maintenance checklists, and local resources you need to confidently manage your septic system for decades to come.

Septic 101

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH 3:00-5:00

PM

**Community Meeting Room, Rye Public
Library**

581 Washington Rd

Rye, NH 03870

Please Register: 



Registration is live and free to the public

<https://ryepubliclibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/septic-101/>

Meet your Presenter!

Tom Canfield

- Owner of Thomas Canfield Earth Construction out of Rochester, NH
- NH Licensed Septic Evaluator
- Board member (Director) of GSOWA (Granite State Onsite Wastewater Association)