

MOWPA

MD 2018 Legislative Septic Regulations Survey Results Summary

Professional Association

Inspector	27.14%
Installer	24.29%
Regulator	14.29%
Designer	11.43%
Vendor	10.00%
Operation & Maintenance Provider	10.00%
Other (please specify)	2.86%

Onsite Experience

Less than 1 year	10.00%
1 to 3 years	11.67%
3 to 10 years	8.33%
more than 10 years	70.00%

Quantity of System Contact

251 to 1,000	31.67%
11 to 50	20.00%
51 to 100	15.00%
101 to 250	13.33%
0 to 10	10.00%
Over 1,000	10.00%

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Are you in favor of State law to require mandatory pumping of private Onsite Systems at five year intervals for residential and more often for commercial?

Yes	46.67%
No	20.00%
Not sure	11.67%
Need more information	21.67%

Are you in favor of State law to require mandatory inspections of private Onsite Systems at five year intervals for residential and more often for commercial?

Yes	53.33%
No	23.33%
Not sure	5.00%
Need more information	18.33%

Are you in favor of Statewide licensing of Onsite professionals with continuing education?

Yes	80.00%
No	5.00%
Not sure	1.67%
Need more information	13.33%

In an effort to protect ground water, lakes, streams, and the Chesapeake Bay, are you in favor of expanding the BAT requirement to include: Live streams, lakes, and/or wellhead protection areas?

Yes	51.67%
No	23.33%
Not sure	6.67%
Need more information	18.33%

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Comments from survey participants:

- 1) Save the bay and watersheds should be the #1 priority. Too many people are polluting and being on the job less than a year, it's alarming how some of these systems are.
- 2) BAT systems should only be installed when there is a known environmental concern
- 3) To what extent would the difficulty of obtaining onsite professional licensing be? How would BAT funding change in order to meet future demand for more nitrogen reducing units? How would information on BATs become more readily available for onsite sewage disposal professionals be able to become more proficient at inspecting these units. The information on BATs needs to become more readily available for inspectors in order to be able to inspect the operating conditions of these OSDS, if installation of these units continues to rise.
- 4) I believe that mandatory inspections are more important than a pumping requirement. The inspection report can then recommend pumping if needed.
- 5) I am a 3rd generation septic installer, pumper, and service provider, so it would be good for the ones who are in the business, as far as creating jobs, and keeping legitimate business owners liable for their actions. but as a local of Chestertown, MD, our surrounding rivers, lakes, streams, etc. is a way of life, no matter the season, to protect these waters so we are able to enjoy and take in what they can provide.
- 6) Sampling of septic systems and flow measurement should be mandatory, at least for commercial properties. Random sampling of residential septic systems should be done to create nutrient profile of typical residential discharges but should be funded by MDE. There is no sufficient data on wastewater quality from septic system. No data whatsoever on pharmaceutical content in septic discharge. Are we pretending that they are not in wastewater slowly percolating to shallow aquifers? This is where BRF money needs to be spent not on upgrading random septic systems or connecting commercial site that can afford it themselves but, on more research, and data collection. Thanks.
- 7) Karst geology should be included as an area of concern regarding on-site disposal systems and well locations due to the risk of potential contaminants in unconfined aquifers.
- 8) The survey is misleading without needed specificity.
- 9) Less Regs is better

*48,39% of the MOWPA membership responded to this survey