



TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT OLIVE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

License to Operate (LTO) Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the License to Operate (LTO) Program and why do I need an Operation Permit?

The License to Operate (LTO) Program is a municipal-wide initiative to ensure proper maintenance of Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems) in an effort to protect public health, minimize pollution of state waters, and extend the lifetime of private sewage systems. LTO Permits are required for all properties serviced by a septic system as outlined within Township of Mount Olive Ordinance Chapter 445-6; License to Operate.

2. When did the License to Operate (LTO) Program start and how are systems being enrolled?

The License to Operate (LTO) Program began in 1990, modeling requirements established by the New Jersey Department Environmental Protection. Individual Septic Systems are enrolled into the program as they are newly constructed, or go through permitted repairs/upgrades.

3. What are the requirements for the maintenance of my LTO Permit?

Evidence of the septic tanks being pumped by a licensed Septic Hauler within the last three years, submission of a completed LTO renewal application and an administrative fee of \$15.00. Please note that the septic tanks are required to be pumped every three years.

4. Will I have to replace my septic system if it is found to be creating a public health nuisance?

Not necessarily. If the nuisance situation can be eliminated by approved repairs, then the system will be deemed compliant. If repairs are not possible, the Health Department will review replacement options with homeowners.

5. How can I pay for the Operation Permit?

The Township of Mount Olive Health Department accepts cash, checks, and electronic checks through the Township's [Online Payment Portal](#).

Our Vision: Healthy People Making Healthy Choices in a Healthy Environment

6. How will I be notified of my LTO permit renewal requirements?

Two months prior to when your LTO Permit is due to expire, the Health Department will mail you a notice of renewal and associated documents.

7. Why are fees charged for LTO permitting?

The funding generated by the LTO program is utilized to offset the cost associated with maintaining the maintenance program. Some of these cost include the time spent collecting and reviewing of required documentation, the preparation of correspondences, postage for mailings, and personnel costs for administering the program. Personnel costs include preparing correspondence, maintaining the program database, reviewing septic pumping reports, following up with property owners and septic haulers on non-compliance & system performance issues, providing homeowner education, and municipal court activity.

8. Who can perform the required maintenance on my Septic system?

Only a Septic Hauler licensed by the Township of Mount Olive Health Department can perform the required maintenance of the system. A list of licensed Septic Haulers be found at: https://www.mountolivetwpnj.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf4736/f/imce/u95/haulers_list.jpg.

9. Who submits the proof of required maintenance? How soon must reports be submitted?

A Septic Hauler licensed with the Health Department must submit proof of service within 60 days of servicing. However, it is ultimately the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that all required documentation and fees are submitted to the Health Department in a timely manner.

10. What happens if I don't do the required maintenance?

Not completing required maintenance may shorten the life expectancy of your septic system; resulting in thousands of dollars in repair or replacement costs. Additionally, failing to comply with LTO permitting requirements may result in the issuance of summons and possible fines.

11. Do LTO permits transfer ownership upon sale of a home?

Yes. Once a system is enrolled into the program, the LTO Permit issued will remain associated with the system and will transfer automatically to the new owner upon sale. Sellers are responsible for disclosing details of the LTO Permit terms and conditions to buyers.

12. I have additional questions, who should I call?

Call the Township of Mount Olive Health Department at (973) 691-0900 Ext. 7330.