



Septic Improvement Cost Share
Project Application
CRITERIA FOR FUNDING

The Clear Creek Conservation District (CCCD) currently has funding available to provide cost-share assistance to homeowners wishing to make septic improvements in the Clear Creek watershed. The purpose of this project is to develop and install structural and/or management practices that will assist in reducing water quality impacts from failing or inadequate septic systems. This program is designed to help the homeowner from the septic tank to the leach field. This will not cover costs of new plumbing in the home or to the septic tank. This program is designed to assist homeowners who voluntarily wish to address septic systems they believe may be negatively impacting water quality. In addition, the program will help homeowners minimize their risk for regulatory action.

As part of this program, technical assistance from CCCD, the Johnson County Planning Department and the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) may be provided to assist the homeowner in the planning, design, and engineering of the project. Other qualified personnel may be used at the homeowner's discretion to provide technical support. However, the homeowner must contact the county to begin the permitting process before any work begins. All work must meet Johnson County and WDEQ standards and specifications to be considered for funding. An agreement between CCCD and the homeowner must be signed upon board approval.

Applications will be prioritized and selected by the Clear Creek Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Projects that are at risk for directly contaminating Clear Creek, Crazy Woman Creek, Powder River or their major tributaries, within our district boundaries, will be a higher priority than those on canals, ditches, draws or other minor waterways. Homeowners are encouraged to meet with the Conservation District Board of Supervisors during the application process.

Although not required, an information and education component, which might include a tour of the project, is highly recommended as a way to facilitate broad-scale change throughout the watershed. However, the Conservation District does not wish to exclude projects with a high potential for improving water quality that might not otherwise participate.

The level of treatment to be achieved will target zero percent failure on current Johnson County/WDEQ standards for septic systems.

The criteria used when prioritizing Septic Improvement Project applications include:

1. The location in respect to impaired waterbodies
2. An assessment of the landowner's risk or need for improvement
3. Water quality concerns/potential benefits
4. Cost effectiveness

The cost-share program is based on three tiers of funding, dependent upon the type of project:

Tier One:

75% cost share on systems that are directly discharging into the mainstem of the river or a major tributary. The funding will be cost shared at 75% from the Conservation District and 25% match from the homeowner. Examples include straight pipe from house to water body with no septic tank, malfunctioning tank with no leach field and effluent running directly into water body.

Tier Two:

50% cost share on systems discharging into live water that has the potential to reach a water body. The funding will be cost shared at 50% from the Conservation District and 50% match from the homeowner. Examples include malfunctioning systems on a lesser tributary or other surface water that does flow into the mainstem. May not have a tank, or no leach field, but the effluent must travel a reasonable distance to get to the water.

Tier Three:

25% cost share on other systems that are reaching a water body, but that water does not have the direct potential to reach the mainstem. The funding will be cost shared at 25% from the Conservation District and 75% match from the homeowner. Examples are systems discharging into an irrigation ditch, or canal, or pond or other body of water that does not directly affect the river mainstem.

Other Criteria:

1. The total project cost-share cannot exceed \$10,000.00.
2. A qualified person will review the project before final priority setting to ensure the project site is correlated to water quality impacts.

Note: the initial cost of the project is the responsibility of the homeowner. The District will reimburse the homeowner upon receiving a copy of the signed, final approval permit from the county and all applicable receipts for the actual costs of the project.

Please fill out the attached project application and homeowner self assessment as thorough as possible and return to the Conservation District. Once the District receives your application, you will be contacted to set up an appointment for a site visit by District personnel.

If your application is selected for funding by CCCD, you will be required to submit a copy of the final use permit, signed by the county, and all receipts, invoices (marked paid in full) and any other documentation of expenditures before any payment will be made by CCCD.

NOTE: THIS PROGRAM IS BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND PRIORITIES FOR FUNDING ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME.