

Memorandum

Kendall County Health Department

Environmental Health Unit

Date: 5/26/06

To: Licensed Septic Contractors and Developers

From: Erich Hess, Well and Septic Sanitarian

Subj.: **Erosion control of an Illinois Raised Filter Bed**

In an effort to ensure that Illinois Raised Filter Beds are covered properly and in a timely manner, the Kendall County Health Department, Environmental Health Unit will soon begin enforcing a new Sod/Erosion Control Blanket policy.

According to the Illinois Private Sewage Disposal Licensing Act and Code Section 905.95(L)... Sod shall be placed over the filter bed and mantle of this system (erosion control blanket is acceptable).

For an Illinois Raised Filter Bed to work as it is designed and to meet Code, it is imperative to maintain a minimum of 12 inches earth cover over the Filter Bed and Mantle sections of this system. The Health Department will allow a maximum time frame of 14 days after the Filter Bed is installed to complete the final covering of this system. With the possibility of a major rain event jeopardizing the integrity of the system, the system may need to be covered sooner than 14 days to prevent soil erosion.

Please be informed that beginning **July 1, 2006**, the following policy regarding septic permit application submittals will take effect:

- 1) Beginning July 1, 2006, the Kendall County Health Department will start requiring a written plan of action that shall be accompanied with all Illinois Raised Filter Bed septic application proposals. This written plan of action shall:
 - a) State clearly who will be responsible for covering the system.
 - b) State when the sod or the erosion control blanket will be set in place to cover the system.
 - c) Be signed by the septic installer or homeowner before a permit can be reviewed and approved.

- 2) If any changes are to be made to the written plan of action, it is the responsibility of the above said party to supply the Health Department with a new proposal that will be reviewed and approved by this Unit.
- 3) Once the sod or erosion control blanket has been installed, a call to the Health Department will be required to set up an inspection to confirm the work has indeed been done and done according to the written plan of action.

The Health Department considers the **effective and timely protection** of a newly constructed filter bed **essential** to its safe and successful operation. Failure to do so unnecessarily exposes the filter bed to potential vulnerabilities, thus compromising its integrity, and would require that the Health Department take immediate action to ensure said protection is achieved with what ever means are available, including but not limited to swift enforcement action.