

Lurgankeel,
Kilcurry,
Dundalk,
Co. Louth, 29/3/21
A91W58V.

email mal.mceneaney@gmail.com

Hi, I have a faulty septic tank which was installed approx. 30 years ago. It has ceased to function properly for the last 14 years.

In 2006 I received quotations from various companies with the intention of replacing/upgrading the system. Soon afterwards there was media speculation regarding impending grants for upgrading. I decided to wait and see if this would happen.

On Wed. Feb. 6th 2008, it was announced in our local paper that grants were soon to be available for the upgrading of old septic tanks.

I have contacted the Louth County Council, The Dept. of The Environment and the E.P.A. explaining my situation, to no avail. You cannot get the grant until a Local Authority Inspection takes place. On phoning Council Staff, they stated that it could be 10 or 15 years before I am notified of an inspection.

I cannot understand why if a grant is available, one cannot avail of it. The tank, in my opinion, has now become a health hazard, as I am sure an inspection would confirm.

Are there any avenues I could explore to highlight my situation? My only income is the State Pension and I just could not afford to pay the full amount for upgrading/replacing to a new, more modern system.

I enclose various e-mails, quotes and newspaper cuttings to highlight my case. I would be most grateful if you could return them to me as I may have to forward them to other Government Departments. (You may photocopy them if you wish).

Thank you for reading this letter.

Stay Safe and Kind Regards,

Dermot McEneaney.

Failed septic tanks may be entitled to remedial grants

Louise McBride

SOME people whose septic tank failed the first round of inspections, you may be entitled to a grant of up to €4,000 to repair or upgrade your tank.

To be eligible for the maximum grant, your household income must be no more than €50,000. You will qualify for a grant of no more than 80 per cent of approved costs (up to the €4,000 limit).

If your household income is between €50,001 and €75,000, you will only be entitled to a maximum grant of €2,500 – or up to half of approved costs.

If your household income is more than €75,000, you won't be entitled to any grant.

You apply to your local authority – and you will need evidence of household income. Household income is calculated as your gross taxable income in the previous tax year, together with that of your spouse or partner. You must also provide receipts for the work carried out and the tax clearance certificate of the contractor who carried out the repair or upgrade.

You cannot get a grant for the cost of maintaining, servicing or desludging your tank.

You could avoid having to repair or upgrade your septic tank by getting it serviced and deslugged at least once a year.

Only hire authorised waste contractors to remove the sludge – you can get a list of such contractors from your local authority. If you never have to empty your septic tank, it may be because it is leaking – if this is the case, it could be contaminating nearby water wells. Avoid running into problems with your tank include limiting your use of bleach and disinfectants and not pouring fat and grease down the sink.

News briefs

Lenten prayers

A series of Lenten prayer services for healing will be held on the Sundays of Lent at St Joseph's Redemptorist Church.

They start on Sunday next with Fr Jim Stanley, CSsR, Marianella, Dublin, followed by Fr Sean Moore, CSsR, St Clement's, Belfast on 17th, Fr Richard McMahon, CSsR, Marianella, Dublin on 24th, Fr J J Ó Riordáin, CSsR, Mt St Alphonsus, Limerick, on March 2nd, Fr Brendan O'Rourke, CSsR, Marianella, Dublin on 9th and concludes with Fr Michael Kelleher, CSsR on 16th.

The services start at 7pm, and everyone is welcome.

Grants for new septic tanks

Government grants for those needing to upgrade old septic tanks are on the way according to Louth Fianna Fáil TD Seamus Kirk.

'There is a real need for Government grants for those who need to replace septic tanks.'

'This is a very costly procedure that can put serious financial strain on those living in rural areas relying on septic tanks,' said the Deputy.

'The Minister for the Environment has pointed out that there is a commitment in the programme for Government for the replacement and upgrade of septic tanks older than fifteen years with newer systems.'

Retirement group AGM

Business av

Dundalk Chamber of Commerce has announced the winners of the first round of the Dundalk Business Excellence Awards sponsored by VHI Healthcare and The Argus.

The aim of these awards is to recognise individuals and companies who excel in customer service in order that the customer's needs are met and make Dundalk a better place to do business.

Winner in the customer excellence category is D'Arcy Flowers. Opened four years, Aileen McClean and her staff were nominated for their friendly and efficient service.

Taking time to ensure that the customers' needs are met, Aileen provides a warm atmosphere and a very professional service showing that the customer really is king.

Winner of the business excellence category is Acorn Financial Services. An inde-



Cormac Woods (centre, front), Acorn Financial Services, n Byrne, VHI Healthcare, and Jim Smyth, Editor The Argus, staff.

pendent mortgage, investment and protection brokerage founded in 1997 by Cormac Woods, the company has in eleven years grown to being one of the

north east's busiest brokerages employing ten staff Dundalk town centre.

Cormac firmly believes that the success of the business is due to the ove



Aibhlin McClean (3rd from left), D'Arcy Flowers, receives the Business Excellence Award from Deirdre McHugh (2nd from left), The Argus, and Bill Tosh, Dundalk Chamber, watched by staff members (L-R) Eret Tingane, Skirmante Jakiene and Michael Lavery.



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Domestic wastewater treatment systems inspections (DWWTS)

2 messages

Ciaran Kinney <Ciaran.Kinney@louthcoco.ie>

To: "mal.mceneaney@gmail.com" <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Tue, May 19, 2015 at 11:58 AM

A chara,

It is not possible to give you a date when the DWWTS will be inspected in your area. The EPA decide which areas have to be inspected & how many. It is not possible to pre book an inspection.

Ciaran

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

To: Ciaran Kinney <Ciaran.Kinney@louthcoco.ie>

Tue, May 19, 2015 at 9:27 PM

Thank you.

[Quoted text hidden]



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Faulty septic tank

2 messages

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Tue, Feb 16, 2016 at 5:43 PM

To: qcsofficer@environ.ie

Hi,Septic tank requires immediate upgrade.Now a health hazard.Registered tank on.9/7/2012
Still waiting for inspection.Tank is 100 metres from a river. e mailed Local Authority on
numerous occasions since 9/7/2012 requesting an inspection in order to avail of grant for
upgrade.I was told it could be next week,next month,next year or 10 years away.The Local
Authority is Louth County Council Seriously concerned as I presume this is a health hazard.
I am eager to get this problem resolved. Cheers,Dermot mc Eneaney.

qcsofficer <qcsofficer.qcsofficer@environ.ie>

Fri, Feb 19, 2016 at 9:59 AM

To: Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Dear Mr McEneaney

Thank you for your email to the Quality Customer Service of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. We aim to respond to your query within 15 working days. If we cannot do this we will contact you to explain why and tell you when you can expect a full reply.

Kind regards

Róisín

Róisín Heuston

Quality Customer Service Officer

Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government

Custom House

Custom House Quay

Dublin

D01 W6X0

Please see below emails.

Regards,

Jeanette Morgan
Clerical Officer
Customer Service

From: Dermot McEneaney [mailto:mal.mceneaney@gmail.com]
Sent: 18 February 2015 22:31
To: Jeanette Morgan
Subject: Re: Septic tank inspection.

Hi, still waiting for inspection of septic tank which needs immediate upgrading. Can not avail of grant until engineer inspects, approves

and then authorizes procedure for work to commence. Yours sincerely Dermot mc Eneaney.

On Tue, Oct 28, 2014 at 9:45 AM, Jeanette Morgan <jeanette.morgan@louthcoco.ie> wrote:

Dear Mr. McEneaney,

Thank you for your email. It has been forwarded to the Environmental Compliance office for their attention.

What is the current procedure for availing of a septic tank upgrade/replacement?

Regards, DERMOT MC ENEANEY

LURGANKEEL

KILCURRY

DUNDALK

CO.LOUTH

A91W58V

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>
To: info@louthcoco.ie

Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 6:45 PM

[Quoted text hidden]



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Grant for upgrading septic tank

2 messages

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>
To: info@louthcoco.ie

Sat, Jan 4, 2014 at 5:44 PM

Sir, Registered my septic tank as requested. Need major development and upgrade. When will the inspections begin in order to surmise the work needed to be done. The sooner the tank is inspected the sooner the work can commence, and I can apply and avail of the grant. No work can commence until grant is processed and passed. Sincerely yours, Mal.

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>
To: info@louthcoco.ie

Sun, Apr 6, 2014 at 10:24 PM

[Quoted text hidden]



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Faulty septic tank

2 messages

Tony Keogh - (DECLG) <Tony.Keogh@environ.ie>
To: "mal.mceneaney@grfail.com" <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 19, 2016 at 10:39 AM

Dear Mr. McEneaney,

I refer to your email below.

A grants scheme for the remediation of failing septic tanks was introduced under the Waste Water Treatment Systems (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2013. The scheme is not a universal one - it applies only to works arising from an inspection carried out and subsequent issue of an advisory notice under the Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012. Those inspections are carried out based on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Inspection Plan which uses a risk-based methodology for the selection of systems for inspection, taking into account factors such as densities of individual treatment systems across various hydrological and geological settings and the locations of sensitive groundwater or surface water receptors. Selection of septic tanks and other treatment systems for inspection under the EPA's plan is carried out by the local authorities using an IT system developed by the EPA. The EPA specifies the number of inspections to be carried out by each local authority and householders cannot request inspections of their own treatment systems.

Any person who considers that their septic tank constitutes, or may constitute, a risk to human health or the environment is responsible for having any necessary remediation works carried out without delay and should seek the advice of a competent contractor regarding what remediation works might be necessary. Householders who do not meet the eligibility criteria for the 2013 grants scheme but whose on-site treatment system requires remediation or upgrading may qualify for relief under the Home Renovation Incentive (HRI) Scheme introduced under Section 5 of the Finance (No. 2) Act 2013. The HRI scheme covers main residence repairs, renovations and improvements, including the repair or replacement of septic tanks. The scheme is administered by the Revenue Commissioners and full details are published on Revenue's website at <http://www.revenue.ie/en/tax/it/reliefs/hri/hri-general-faqs.html>

Yours Sincerely,

Tony Keogh,
Dept. of the Environment, Community and Local Government,
Water Quality Section,
Newtown Road, Wexford Y35 AP90.
Telephone : 053 - 9117499
Email : tony.keogh@environ.ie

From: Dermot McEneaney [<mailto:mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>]
Sent: 16 February 2016 17:43
To: qcsofficer
Subject: Faulty septic tank

Hi,Septic tank requires immediate upgrade.Now a health hazard.Registered tank on.9/7/2012 Still waiting for inspection.Tank is 100 metres from a river. e mailed Local Authority on numerous occasions since 9/7/2012 requesting an inspection in order to avail of grant for upgrade.I was told it could be next week,next month,next year or 10 years away.The Local Authority is Louth County Council Seriously concerned as I presume this is a

health hazard.

I am eager to get this problem resolved. Cheers, Dermot mc Eneaney.

Is faoi rún agus chun úsáide an té nó an aonán atá luaite leis, a sheoltar an ríomhphost seo agus aon comhad atá nasctha leis. Má bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, déan teagmháil le bhainisteoir an chórais.

Deimhnítear leis an bhfo-nóta seo freisin go bhfuil an teachtaireacht ríomhphoist seo scuabtha le bogearraí frithvórais chun vórais ríomhaire a aimsiú.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager.

This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept by anti-virus software for the presence of computer viruses.

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>
To: "Tony Keogh - (DECLG)" <Tony.Keogh@environ.ie>

Fri, Feb 19, 2016 at 7:14 PM

Tony, I have visited the Revenue website. No advantage to me whatsoever. I am on Jobseekers Allowance and my wife is a full time carer for our special needs child. Had an inspection been carried out and the grant been allocated I would have applied and been granted without hesitation a loan from our local Credit Union for the remainder. Our credit rating is A1. The work needs doing. I am willing to proceed. There is not the remotest scenario of me being able to fund the project at my own expense. Thanks for replying to my email. Cheers, Dermot mc Eneaney.

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Is faoi rún agus chun úsáide an té nó an aonán atá luaite leis, a sheoltar an ríomhphost seo agus aon comhad atá nasctha leis. Má bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, déan teagmháil le bhainisteoir an chórais.

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Bosca Poist 3000, Eastát Chaisleán Bhaile Sheáin, Contae Loch Garman.

Tel: 00353 53 91 60600: Fax: 00353 53 91 60699: Email: info@epa.ie web: www.epa.ie

Lo Call: 1890 33 55 99

Environmental Protection Agency on Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/EPAIreland>.

EPA Climate Change on Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/EPAClimateNews>

EPA Research on Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/EPAResearchNews>

YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/epaireland>

[Quoted text hidden]

Dermot McEaney <mal.mcneaney@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 6:02 PM

To: Wexford Receptionist <REC_WEX@epa.ie>

Hi Ruth, I contacted Louth County Council yet again and they suggested that I replace the faulty tank at my own expense. I cannot see the point in advertising available grants if a person cannot access the grant. No person came to inspect or gave notice of an intending inspection. I feel I am fighting a losing battle here. I really want to fix this problem. Nobody seems to show an interest in assisting me. Regards, Dermot.

[Quoted text hidden]

Wexford Receptionist <REC_WEX@epa.ie>

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 9:30 AM

To: Dermot McEaney <mal.mcneaney@gmail.com>

A Chara,

Your correspondence on December 8th has been forwarded for attention.

[Quoted text hidden]



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Grant for replacement of faulty septic tank.

4 messages

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>
To: info@epa.ie

Tue, Oct 27, 2020 at 6:25 PM

Hi, I have an article from my local newspaper stating that grants are available for new septic tanks. The date is Feb, 6 2008. I have a faulty septic tank which unfortunately was incorrectly installed. To this day, it is not functioning as it should. I was and am still interested in upgrading the system.

I registered the septic tank on 9/7/2012 as requested with the Dept. of Housing Planning and Local Government. Reg. number TVFBS5HY5W.

I contacted Louth County Council on numerous occasions requesting an inspection of the septic tank. There had to be an inspection prior to a grant being approved. They replied many times stating that it is not their responsibility.

I contacted the E.P.A. and still no development.

I contacted the Dept. of the Environment, Community and Local Government and they advised me to employ a local contractor regarding remedial works. This is not a minor malfunction of the septic tank. It is a major fault and needs replacing. Nobody seems to want to assist me in replacing this system. I am very concerned for my family's health and my own. If an inspection was done I am sure the inspector would justify my concerns.

What is the current procedure for availing of a septic tank upgrade/replacement?

Regards, DERMOT MC ENEANEY

LURGANKEEL

KILCURRY

DUNDALK

CO. LOUTH

A91W58V

Wexford Receptionist <REC_WEX@epa.ie>
To: Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 28, 2020 at 12:41 PM

A Chara,

Your correspondence on October 27th has been forwarded for attention.

Kind regards,

Ruth O'Connor

Duty Receptionist/Programme Officer

Environmental Protection Agency

P.O. Box 3000

Johnstown Castle Estate

Wexford

Y35 W821



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Grant for replacement of faulty septic tank. EPA016231

2 messages

Environmental Query <queriesofficer@epa.ie>
To: Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Thu, Nov 12, 2020 at 4:08 PM

Dear Dermot,

Thank you for contacting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Apologies for not getting back sooner but I have been on annual leave.

The grants for upgrading of wastewater treatment systems/septic tanks is operated by the County Council and you need to contact them in this matter. These are subject to certain qualifying criteria. Further information is available at the following link.

<http://www.epa.ie/water/wastewater/info/grants/>

This EPA has no role in the operation of this scheme.

Kind regards

Linda Deegan

Environmental Queries Officer

From: Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>**Sent:** 27 October 2020 18:25**To:** Wexford Receptionist <REC_WEX@epa.ie>**Subject:** Grant for replacement of faulty septic tank.

Hi, I have an article from my local newspaper stating that grants are available for new septic tanks. The date is Feb, 6 2008. I have a faulty septic tank which unfortunately was

incorrectly installed. To this day, it is not functioning as it should. I was and am still interested in upgrading the system.

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for my family's health and my own. If an inspection was done I am sure the inspector would justify my concerns.



Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

Septic tank inspection and potential upgrade.

1 message

Dermot McEneaney <mal.mceneaney@gmail.com>

To: info@louthcoco.ie

Mon, May 18, 2015 at 8:52 PM

Sir,Any idea when inspector will be in the Kilcurry area as I assume my tank is in need of an upgrade and cannot avail of grant until tank is inspected and work is authorized.Cheers,Dermot mc Eneaney.

Dermot McEneaney
Lurgankeel
Kilcurry
Dundalk
Co. Louth
A91 W58V

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Reference ID: **272-W6V9M3**

Registration number: TVFBS5HY5W
Date of registration: 09/07/2012
Registered to: Dermot McEneaney
Registered address: Lurgankeel, Kilcurry, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 W58V
Water services authority: Louth County Council

Issued under the Water Services Act 2017.

This document certifies that the domestic wastewater treatment system connected to a property at the aforementioned address, and registered to the aforementioned owner, has been included on the Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems register.

Please retain this document.

- You may be requested to present this document to an authorised person appointed by the water services authority.
- When selling or transferring ownership of your property please provide a copy of this certificate to the new owner. The new owner will be responsible for notifying the water services authority above of the change in ownership. For more information on change of ownership please visit www.protectourwater.ie.

BORD NA MÓNA

BORD NA MÓNA ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED

Mr Dermot McEneaney
Lurten Kell
Kilcurry
Dundalk
Co Louth

10/07/2006

Dear Mr McEneaney,

Re: Bord na Móna Environmental Ltd. Wastewater Treatment for Single Houses

Please find enclosed information leaflets for Bord na Móna's Agrément certified single house wastewater treatment systems. Bord na Móna offers a choice of treatment systems, providing solutions for a broad range of site conditions and wastewater treatment requirements.

The Puraflo Peat Filter System uses bio-fibrous peat housed in compact modular containers to provide low cost, effective treatment of household effluent. The Puraflo system provides unsurpassed treatment results and is currently providing reliable, low maintenance wastewater treatment to thousands of households throughout the country

The Platinum 6 package treatment plant is a compact, cost efficient solution for treating household wastewater. The Platinum 6 utilises the well proven aeration process and has many additional features to ensure on-going, hassle-free wastewater treatment. Gravity or pumped outlet versions are available for both the Puraflo and Platinum 6 systems.

Further information is available on the **Puraflo** and **Platinum 6** treatment systems on the Bord na Móna website www.bnm.ie or through your regional Bord na Móna Environmental Ltd. office (tel no 1850 38 1136). A national network of Customer Agents are also on hand, at local level, to provide free site visits, pre-planning assistance and a no obligation quotation.

Yours sincerely



Conor Dolan
Bord na Móna Environmental Ltd.



AQUAmax Ireland Ltd.
Estate House
Dunshaughlin
County Meath
Ph: 01-8250895
Fax: 01-8258815

February 8th, 2006

Dear Mr. Mc Eneaney,

Further to your recent enquiry regarding our sewage treatment systems, please find enclosed information and quotation as requested.

With the stringent laws governing the installation of sewage treatment systems, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you the AQUAmax domestic sewage treatment. AQUAmax has the **Irish Agrément Certification (05/0221)** and has the **German National Technical Approval**. The AQUAmax has won a number of awards in Germany for the optimum results of the final effluent. These results allowed the German certification board to change the national standard to these figures that were achieved by the AQUAmax. And finally the AQUAmax system already conforms to the new EU Standard prEN12566-3.

The AQUAmax final effluent results far surpass the requirement of the EPA's Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) 20 & Suspended Solids (SS) 30. We have reports available to show the AQUAmax performing a BOD level as low as 5.

The AQUAmax is automatically controlled from an in house control panel. A unique cost effective feature of the AQUAmax would be the economy/holiday mode setting whereby the system automatically switches to economy mode during times of under loading. AQUAmax Ireland has agents covering almost all areas of Ireland and has a full service contract available. Please also find enclosed a copy of our Agrément Certification for your perusal.

There are many systems here in Ireland that are far cheaper but they will not hold the same certification as the AQUAmax or offer the same results and service.

Quality does come at a price!

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Louise O'Reilly
Commercial Manager (Domestic Division)



Quotation

For Mr Dermot Mc Eneaney

16000 series

bioCycle™ wastewater treatment system

€9,100.00 + VAT @ 13.5%

Delivery to site in Louth

€600.00 + VAT @ 21%

Included

- 15900 litre capacity treatment plant
- Complete on site / remote monitoring system
- Disposal Pump
- Percolation System / Polishing Filter including:
- 4 x Inspection Chambers
- 20 metres of feeder pipe
- 40 metres of percolation pipe & fittings
- 40 metres of geotextile fabric
- 1 free service call within 6 months
- 1 year guarantee on all parts

Warranty

In addition to our 1 year warranty from date of installation, all customers who avail of our service contract will receive an extended warranty for the duration of the contract free of charge.

Terms & Conditions

Quotation is based on a one day installation. This quote excludes all electrical, civil works and site assessments. Additional materials available, if required, quote on request. This quote is valid for a period of 6 months and is subject to loadings.

Your biocycle™ contact is Ashling McNeill

(F85)

Directors:

F. Cavanagh (Managing)
B. McGonagle (Operations)
S. Elmes (Financial)

Technical /Sales:

M. Madden B.E. (mech), M.I.E.I
A. Kenny B.Sc. Hons. Geology, I./

Customer Support:

T. Tolverson
B. McNally
J. O'Rourke