What is a Proprietary Treatment Unit OWTS/Septic System?
A Proprietary Treatment Unit OWTS is a manufactured or “packaged” type of supplemental treatment unit. Most proprietary treatment units currently available fall into two general categories: aerobic treatment units and media filters. It is a component that uses an advanced method of effluent treatment, providing a specified level of treatment prior to dispersal into the dispersal field/leach field. Treated effluent can be discharged to any type of dispersal field, as site conditions dictate. Proprietary Units require an annual Operating Permit.

Proprietary Unit OWTS Management Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inspection</strong></td>
<td>According to Permit conditions and manufacturer’s specifications. Typically: • First three months, and • Every once every 12 months, depending on system size, usage, and history.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>According to Permit conditions and manufacturer’s specifications. Typically: • First three months, and • Every 12 months, depending on System size, usage, and history.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Water Monitoring &amp; Sampling</strong></td>
<td>According to Permit conditions and manufacturer’s specifications. Typically: • First three months, and • Every 12 months, depending on System size, usage, and history.</td>
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<td><strong>Dispersal Field System</strong></td>
<td>According to Permit conditions and manufacturer’s specifications. Typically: • First three months, and • Every 12 months, depending on System size, usage, and history.</td>
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<td><strong>Reporting</strong></td>
<td>According to Permit conditions and manufacturer’s specifications. Typically: • First three months, and • Every 12 months, depending on System size, usage, and history.</td>
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Annual Operating Permit Report Minimum Requirements:

1. **Septic Tank**:
   a. Inspection frequency should be once every 3-7 years.
   b. Scum and sludge measurements (pumped by registered septage pumper, as needed).
   c. Water intrusion (dissolved oxygen measured by the service provider only, if needed).
   d. Integrity of tank, including observation for: cracks or indications of structural deterioration; condition of inlet and outlet T’s; condition of lids and risers; indication of leaks in risers.
   e. Presence and condition of effluent filter.

2. **Pump and Dosing Chamber**:
   a. Scum and sludge measurements, pumping as needed.
   b. Indication of water intrusion (dissolved oxygen measured by the service provider only).
   c. Integrity of tank, including observation for: cracks or indications of structural deterioration; condition of inlet and outlet T’s; condition of lids and risers; indication of leaks in risers.
   d. Condition of and correct operation of all floats.
   e. Orderly wrap of float cords.
   f. Condition of pump intake screen.
   g. Verification of pump cycle.
   h. Siphon sitter functioning, if applicable.

3. **Control panel in good working order based on checking the following components**:
   a. Timer and digital counter readings recorded by the service provider during the inspection. For control panels that record pump activity electronically, manual recordings are not necessary.
   b. Pump cycle counter operation verified by the service provider in the field by manual operation of the pump. For control panels that record pump activity electronically, counter operation can be verified remotely.
   c. Audible and visual alarms functioning.
   d. Run time appropriate, if demand dose.
   e. Electrical box free from moisture and secure connections.

4. **Dispersal/Leach Field**:
   a. Depth of effluent ponding within trenches, if applicable.
   b. Indication of effluent breakout or discharge to surface of the ground.
   c. Upkeep and accessibility of observation port and inspection ports.
   d. Area verified as free from road, structures, vehicular traffic, surface water drainage with downspouts and landscape drainage properly diverted
   e. Results of hydraulic loading test, if test is needed.

5. **Effluent Monitoring Results** (see below)

Effluent Monitoring:

1. **Supplemental Unit only**: Treated effluent and, where applicable, untreated effluent will be sampled and tested at least annually for total and fecal coliform, BOD, and TSS.

2. **Supplemental Unit requiring Nitrogen Reduction**: Influent and effluent of systems with operating permits requiring nitrogen reduction shall also be tested for total nitrogen.

3. **Disinfection Units (e.g., UV filters)**: Wastewater treated by disinfection units shall be tested for total fecal coliform.