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**Mahoning County
District Board of Health**

NEWS RELEASE

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| FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | CONTACT: Mary Helen Smith Mahoning County District Board of Health (330) 270-2855 ext. 134 mhsmith@mahoninghealth.org |
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Ellsworth Township Septic System Owners to Receive Pumping Reminders

The Mahoning County District Board of Health will begin mailing pumping reminders to 580 Ellsworth Township residences with septic systems that have not been pumped in the last three years.

“There is no law that requires homeowners to get their septic tanks pumped,” said Matthew Stefanak, health commissioner of the General Health District in Mahoning County. “But reminding homeowners to get their septic systems serviced regularly can save them thousands of dollars in repair costs,” he said.

Septic tanks should be pumped at different intervals depending on household size and water usage. On average, the ideal frequency is every three years. Homeowners will receive a list of licensed pumpers with their reminder letter. Pumpers notify the Board of Health when they pump a septic tank, and the Board of Health uses this information to keep track of when a septic system was last pumped.

The District Board of Health reminder program has prompted thousands of homeowners in Mahoning County to do preventive maintenance on their septic systems since the program began in 1997. “We believe the program has helped keep many septic systems functioning properly that would have otherwise malfunctioned and threatened public health and the environment,” Stefanak said.

More information about septic system maintenance can be found on the Health Links page of the District Board of Health website at www.mahoninghealth.org.

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