



SEVERN

Septic Re-inspection Program: 2025 Review

Today's topics



- The Septic Re-inspection Program
- Communications and Outreach
- Mandatory On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program
- Discretionary On-site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program
- Process of the Inspections
- Review of 2025 Inspected Properties
- Enforcement
- Deficiencies Found
- Upcoming Years
- Questions

The Septic Re-Inspection Program



In 2006 the Clean Water Act was established and encompasses the Drinking Water Source Protection Program – via “The Walkerton Inquiry”

In 2011, the Ontario Building Code was amended to establish and regulate the Mandatory On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program.

The Building Code Act authorizes municipalities to implement a Discretionary On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program.

In 2020, the Township of Severn implemented the Discretionary Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program (By-law 2020-28).



Communications and Outreach

One of the main focuses was to increase public awareness about the On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program. The Township's Communications Officer has sourced out many ways within the local media, social media, and the Township's media to spread the word.

Standard Outreach

- Mailouts to affected properties and Inspections
- Educational Material

Communications Outreach

- Township Website
- News articles in The Washago Villager publication
- Emailed news and notices
- OrilliaMatters.com and Simcoe.ca
- Tax inserts
- Social Media (Facebook, X, and Instagram)

This outreach has reached over 17,000 viewers annually.



Mandatory On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program



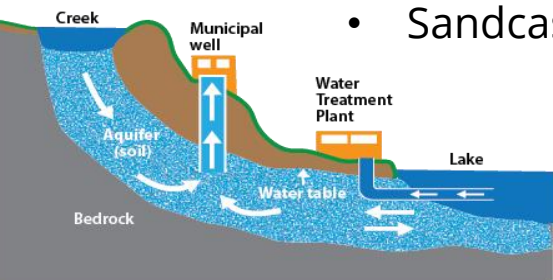
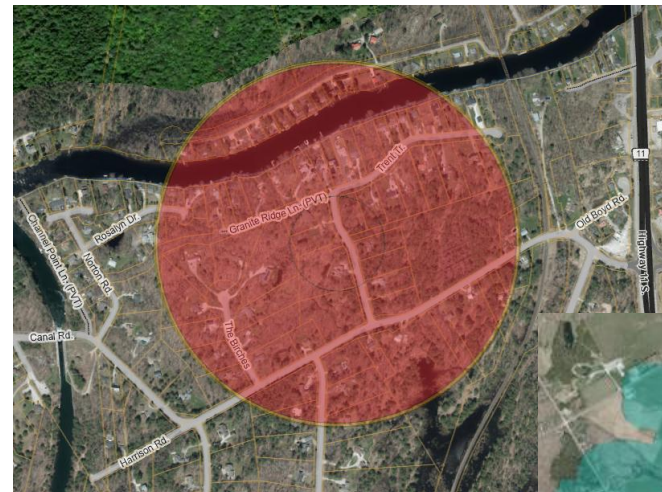
The **Mandatory** On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program applies to all properties within a wellhead protection area or intake protection zone with a high Vulnerability Score (VS) within the municipality:

Wellhead Protection Area (VS-10)

- Severn Estates (Trent Trail)
- Coldwater (Sheridan Dr)
- Bass Lake Woodlands (Ridley Blvd)
- Warminster (Warminster Rd)

Intake Protection Zone (VS-1)

- West Shore (Lake Couchiching)
- Port Severn (Gloucester Pool)
- Sandcastle (Washago)



Discretionary On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program

The **Discretionary** On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program applies to all properties serviced by a sewage system and that directly front upon the following waterbodies within the Municipality:

Severn River
Gloucester Pool
Little Lake
Maclean Lake
Matchedash Bay
Lake Couchiching
Lake St. George*
Green River
Black River
Sparrow Lake
Tea Lake

**Indicates bodies of water and the areas in which the inspections were conducted in 2025.*



Process of the Inspections

Advise Homeowner of the Inspection

Informative Overview of the Program

Door Notice & Education Left at Door

Confirm Paperwork (Permit) & Property

Conduct the Visual Surface Inspection

Invoice & Inspection Report Mailed Out



Administration Office 1024 Hurlwood Lane, Severn
Mailing Address PO Box 159, Orillia, Ontario L3V 6J3
Email info@severn.ca
Phone 705-325-2315

Septic Reinspection Program Inspection Form

Inspection Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023	Result: COMPLETE
Property Information	
Property Address 1111 Severn St	Roll Number: 9-999(010)
System Information	
Type of System: 4 - SEPTIC SYSTEM	Permit on File: YES
2nd System: N/A	Install Date: 4-Aug-04 Age: 18 YRS
Tank	
Type: CONCRETE	Type: FILTER
Size: 3800 L	Total Area: 22M2
Pump Chamber: YES	Number of Runs: 4
Advanced Treatment Unit	
Advanced Treatment Unit: NO	Type: RIVER
Type:	Distance to Well:
Service Agreement:	Distance to Water: 55'
Water Supply	
Type:	
Distance to Well:	
Distance to Water:	
55'	
Questions	
System Located on Property: YES	
Septic Tank Located on Property: YES	
Effluent Visible and/or Odour: NO	
Number of Building the System Serves: 1	
Structures on Septic Tank/Bed: NO	
System has Audible/Visual Alarm: NO	
Excessive Vegetation on Bed Area: NO	
Grading Acceptable: YES	
Evidence of Erosion: NO	
Evidence of Roots Invasion: NO	
Evidence of Vehicle Traffic: NO	
Comments	

Overall Risk Assessment

LOW

Comments:

for: A Renton

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023

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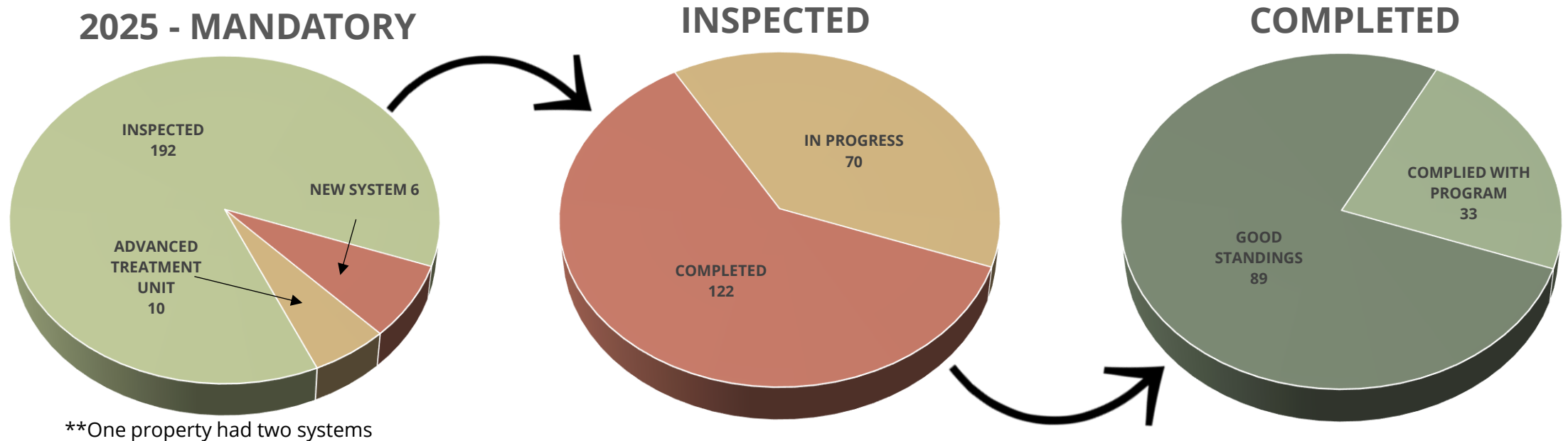
2025 Properties Inspected:

Mandatory and Discretionary



2025 – Mandatory

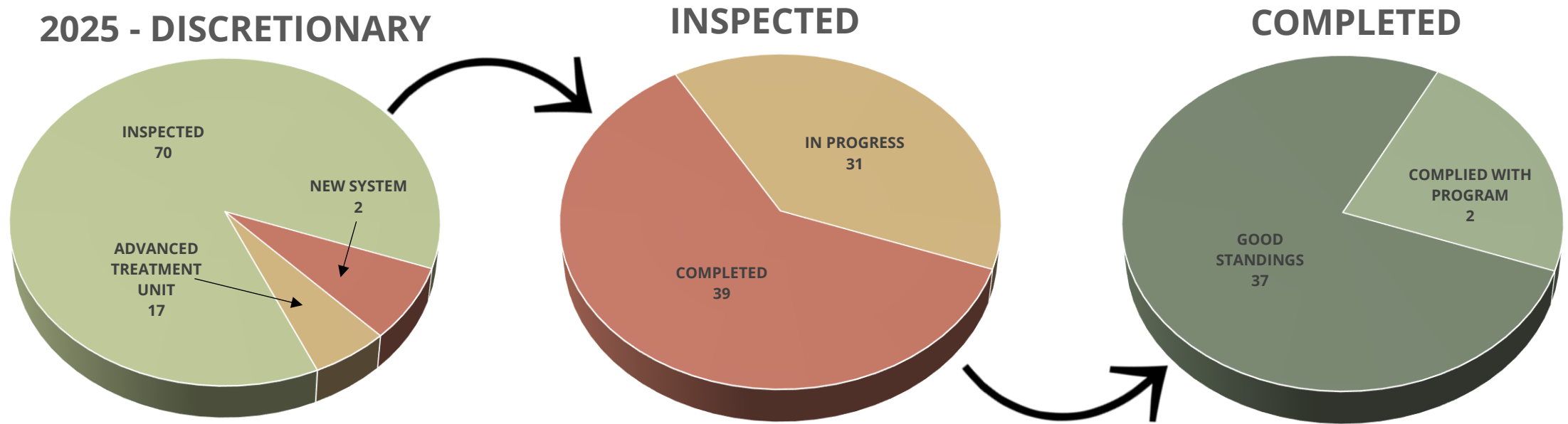
The Mandatory On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspections Program of 2025 consisted of 208 properties, including the 16 exceptions.



Out of all 208 properties inspected within the mandatory Program, 1 properties had high risk deficiencies noted on site.

2025 – Discretionary

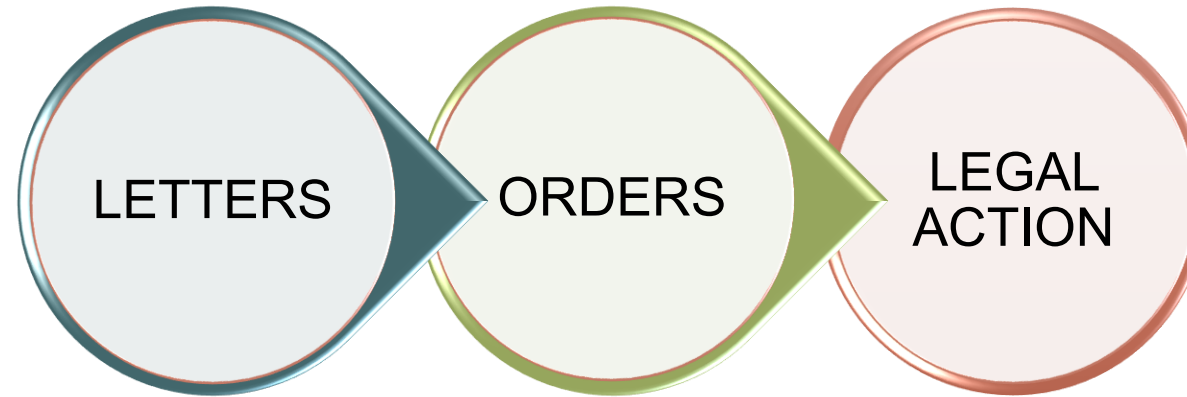
The Discretionary On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspections Program of 2025 consisted of 89 properties, including the 19 exceptions.



Out of all 89 properties inspected within the discretionary Program, 0 properties had high-risk deficiencies noted on site.

Enforcement

Our goal is to work collaboratively with property owners through open communication. While we understand delays can occur, clear progress must be demonstrated to avoid enforcement action, including orders or legal remedies.



Type of deficiencies to enforce replacement:

- Illegal Systems (nonconforming to past and/or present standards)
- Failing Septic Beds or Tanks
- Deteriorated Steel Tanks
- Dumping of Greywater and/or Blackwater

Deficiencies Found: Damaged Systems



Large hole from an animal



Septic beds overgrown



Deficiencies Found: Items on Septic Beds



Deficiencies Found – Damaged / Exposed Tanks



Deficiencies Found – Greywater and Blackwater



Source – www.ecoethic-shop.ca



- Left and Right – Trailers, Greywater and Blackwater Discharge
- Centre – Failing Tank with leaching effluent



Upcoming Year – 2026 & 2027

2026: 370* Properties:

- Gloucester Pool, Maclean Lake And Little Lake
- *These counts include exceptions (Advanced Treatment Unit)*

2027: 428* Properties:

- Severn River and Tea Lake
- *These counts include exceptions (Advanced Treatment Unit)*

**Please note these count could change due to new systems or the decommissioning of systems.



Thank You. Questions?