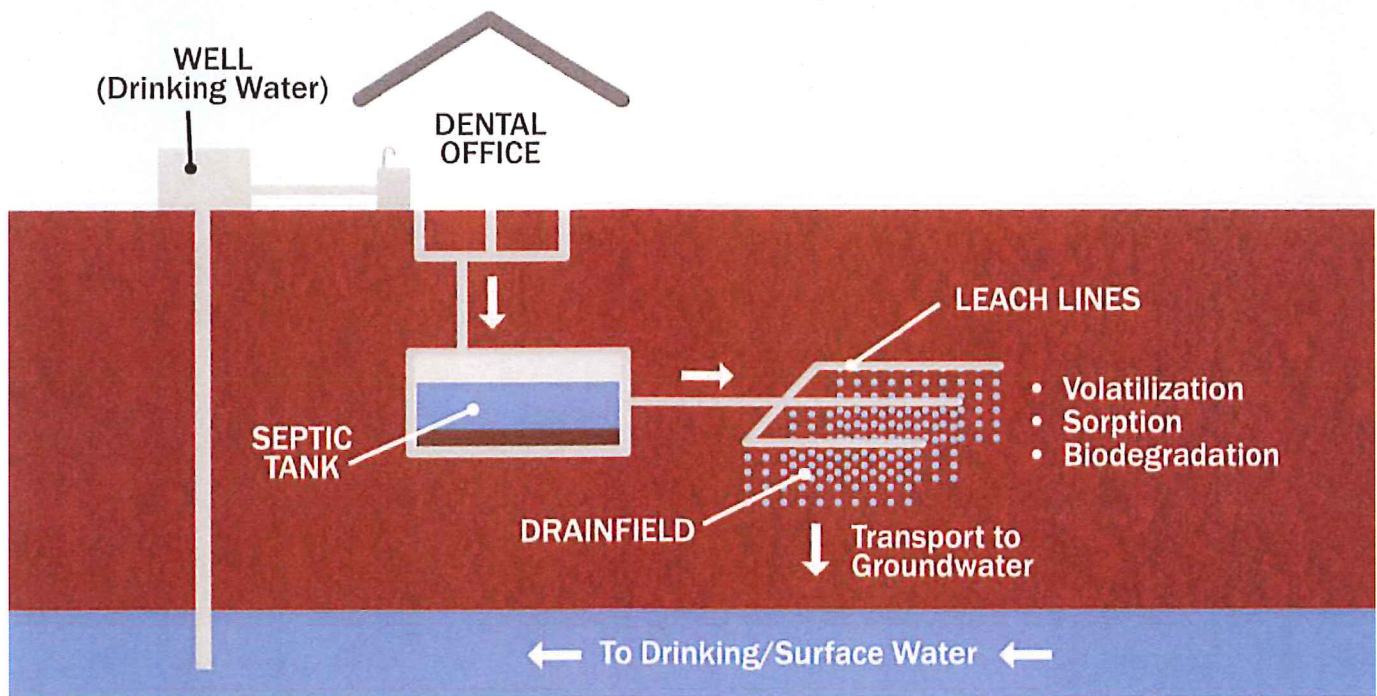


Dental Offices with On-site Septic Systems



What Can Go to an On-site Septic System

On-site septic systems are generally only designed to handle sanitary domestic wastewaters from bathrooms, kitchens, or laundry devices.

What Cannot Go to an On-site Septic System

On-site septic systems are not designed to handle:

- stormwater drainage,
- wastewater from roof or foundation drains,
- wastewaters from water softening devices, or
- wastewaters from industrial or commercial operations, including common dental wastes like dental amalgam wastewaters (treated and untreated), medications, blood, or x-ray fluids.

These types of discharges are considered non-domestic, industrial operational discharges that, if disposed to an on-site system, may contaminate your property, result in exposure to contaminants, or cause your on-site system to prematurely fail.



Local health departments regulate residential sanitary wastewater systems according to the local county code and state law. For information on the local regulations for on-site septic systems, contact your local health department using the directory available at www.malph.org/directory.

How These Unwanted Materials Should be Handled

Dental offices that generate less than 20 gallons of commercially-generated (operational) wastewaters monthly can ship the medical wastewaters to a permitted recycling location using a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) permitted and registered, liquid industrial by-products hauler or licensed septage hauler. Locations generating more than this may be subject to stricter hazardous waste regulations. To learn more about the hazardous waste regulations, view the recorded Webinars in the DEQ's *Introduction to Hazardous Waste Webinar Series* at www.michigan.gov/deqwaste.

Additional Information

To learn more about the state regulations related to dental wastes, see the DEQ resources at the Websites below, discuss your waste needs with your waste vendor, and/or call the Environmental Assistance Center at 800-662-9278:

- www.michigan.gov/deqonsitewastewater
- www.michigan.gov/deqdrugdisposal
- www.michigan.gov/deqmedwaste

Different regulations apply when discharging to local wastewater treatment plants. For information on discharges to a waste water treatment plant, discuss your waste needs with your waste vendor and/or contact your local wastewater treatment plant using the directory available at: www.mi-wea.org/facilities_list.php and/or call the Environmental Assistance Center at 800-662-9278.

NOT OK

Dental Amalgam
Separator Waste
(solids and liquids)

Medications

Dental Procedure
Wastewaters

Medical Waste

X-Ray Solutions