

**Why Inspect an Onsite Sewage System?** Experiencing problems or just want to learn more about your system? Do you own an Alternative Onsite Sewage System (AOSS)? Selling or purchasing a home with a septic system? These are all good reasons to have your septic system inspected by a Licensed Onsite Sewage System Operator or NSF accredited onsite wastewater system inspector. New laws require annual inspections of alternative systems and make the purchaser of a property served by septic responsible for determining the condition of the onsite system and whether maintenance and inspection are required. Even when there is no requirement to inspect or a pending real estate transaction, frequent inspection and maintenance gives you peace of mind the system is functioning as designed.

**Who Can Inspect?** VA law requires anyone who claims to be a certified septic system inspector be certified by NSF. To file a report that satisfies the new State requirements, the inspector must be a licensed operator. SES has many inspectors on staff that are NSF certified and licensed by the State.

**Which Inspection is Right?** SES offers two types of inspections.

1. Standard inspections satisfy most lender requirements for conventional and most alternative systems.
2. Comprehensive inspections are recommended for complex alternative systems, any system 10 years or older,



Inspector probing lines

Access ports of the tanks are uncovered.



Video Inspection of lines

### Standard Inspection

1. Health Department records are reviewed.
2. The tanks are located by probing or other means and the access lid is uncovered.
3. The septic tank is emptied and inspected for leaks, decay and proper baffle Tees.
4. Pump function and alarms are tested if present.
5. Alternative Treatment Unit is inspected if present.
6. The dispersal area is probed and evaluated from the surface for evidence of malfunction.
7. Excavations are backfilled. A report is prepared by an NSF inspector or Licensed Operator.

### Comprehensive Inspection

Recommended for complex alternative systems, older conventional systems & unoccupied properties.

1. All items in standard inspection are included.
2. Pumping rate is checked and adjusted if needed.
3. Distribution box (es) are uncovered and evaluated.
4. Pressurized dispersal systems are evaluated.
5. (Optional Service) Conveyance lines and conventional drainfield lines are inspected with a sewer camera.



Root Clogged distribution box on a 4-year old system

Septic Tank leaking at joint and riser on 15-year old system



Excavations are restored .