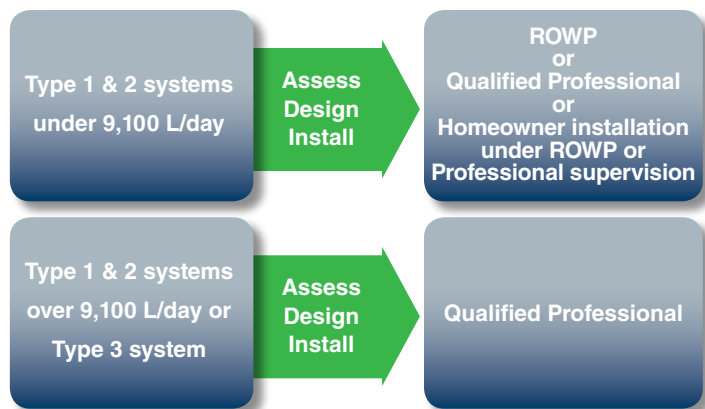


## What the Law Requires of You

The design, installation and maintenance of septic systems in British Columbia falls under the Sewerage System Regulation. As a homeowner with a septic system, the Regulation sets out certain responsibilities and requirements that you should be aware of.

### Use An Authorized Person

Before starting installing or replacing a septic system, you must have an “Authorized Person” – either a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) or a Qualified Professional – assess your property’s soil conditions, design a treatment and ground disposal system appropriate to the site conditions, develop a maintenance plan and then register the treatment and disposal system on your behalf with Interior Health. Who you need to hire depends on the soil conditions, the type of system required for the site and the amount of wastewater generated per day. For single family residences with Type 1 or Type 2 systems, you may also construct your own household system under the supervision of an Authorized Person. See insert box on this page and the back of this guide for more information on how to find an Authorized Person in your service area. **It is an offence to install or repair a septic system without the involvement of an Authorized Person.**



ROWPs and Qualified Professionals follow a Standard Practice Manual (SPM) when investigating and assessing soil conditions, designing the disposal system and creating a maintenance plan. A summary on the SPM is available on the CSRD’s website ([www.csr.bc.ca/septicsmart](http://www.csr.bc.ca/septicsmart)).

### Maintain Your System

When it comes to maintaining your system, Regulation requires that you:

- 1) Ensure your system is maintained in accordance with the maintenance plan provided by the Authorized Person who designed your system.
- 2) Keep records of all maintenance service performed on your system.
- 3) Ensure that all other requirements under the regulations and local by-laws are followed.

**It is an offence to install or repair a septic system without the involvement of an Authorized Person.**

#### To find a registered practitioner (ROWP) in your area contact:

Applied Science Technologists  
& Technicians of BC  
- Onsite Wastewater Registration Program  
Visit: <http://owrp.astbc.org/c/finder.php>  
or call 604.585.2788 ext. 236

#### To find a Qualified Professional in your area contact:

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia  
Visit:  
[www.apeg.bc.ca/members/sewageprolist.html](http://www.apeg.bc.ca/members/sewageprolist.html)  
or call 1.888.430.8035.