

Marion County Building Inspection

Post Fire Septic Information

For your safety, please locate and flag off your septic tank and drain field areas prior to debris removal to avoid any accidents or damage to systems.

- All septic tanks, treatment units, and cesspools should be located and roped off with caution tape to avoid accidents.
- Concrete tanks with cement risers are not expected to pose a threat, however they should be located so that during cleanup, crews know where these tanks are so they know not to drive heavy equipment in this area.
- Plastic risers on cement tanks have the potential to melt during fire events, leaving a 2x2 or 3x3 open hole. These risers, if still in, place may have been compromised as well and should be assessed for damage.
- Plastic tanks should be considered an immediate concern and flagged off until further evaluation can be done.
- Metal tanks rust and rot over time and should be considered an immediate concern as well.
- Very old systems may be actual cesspools, these cesspools will have been compromised not just by fire but by natural processes as well and need to be flagged off for health and safety concerns.

For Septic System Installation records:

<https://www.co.marion.or.us/PW/BuildingInspection/Pages/onsite.aspx>

If records are unavailable or incomplete contact a septic professional to locate your tank and drainfield.

Once the full septic system has been located, flag off this entire area to protect it against further damage. Septic systems should be further evaluated after debris removal phase has been completed.

**Contact Marion County Building Inspection with questions:
503-588-5147 or building@co.marion.or.us**