

Septic Socials

A septic social is a neighborhood activity where important septic system information is conveyed. It is of course geared to communities using septic systems. It is a neighborhood gathering where everyone learns about their septic system and how to maintain it.

Many people using septic do not fully understand how it works or that maintenance is required. Having a better informed septic community can only help the larger community as a whole.

Septic socials often involve natural resource professionals such as Cooperative Extension agents, Soil and Water Conservation staff, local stormwater staff, or other individuals knowledgeable of septic systems and proficient at public education.

A knowledgeable resource professional works with a septic community to come up with a good time for a workshop. The workshop is held in someone's yard from the community. That person is the host. The resource professional uses the workshop to teach everyone how a septic system works. It can be a great neighborhood party, with snacks and drinks, maybe even a pot-luck cookout.

The resource professional may work with a local septic company who helps facilitate the workshop, explaining how septic systems work. The company might offer the host a free septic maintenance cleaning. The benefit to the septic company is the free local advertising within the community. The septic company is seen as a caring company whom the neighbors can put a face to a name with.

The septic clean out can be done that day (usually a little while after everyone has eaten) or at a later time or date. Cleaning out a septic system and having a cook-out in the yard at the same time may not be the most conducive activities to pair!

Lawn Parties

Like a septic social, a lawn party brings together natural resource agents, local business professionals and the community.

The idea is the same as for septic socials. A resource professional and local lawn care professionals can work together with neighborhoods. A homeowner hosts a lawn care party, where the neighborhood can all learn about appropriate stormwater sensitive lawn care.

A lawn party could also be hosted on municipal property, inviting everyone. This could be a good way to reach many people, telling them of the opportunity to have it in their neighborhood.

Lawn parties are an excellent opportunity to teach about runoff, erosion and fertilizer and pesticide application.