



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION
REGARDING MANDATORY MAINTENANCE**

Pursuant to Polk County Ordinance No. 98-31, the Polk County Health Department has been authorized to access an initial \$20.00 fee, to be paid by the property owner(s), when issuing a septic tank permit (new, existing, or repairs) for the Green Swamp area of critical state concern. The purpose of the fee is to cover the cost of program administration.

The following procedures will be used regarding the septic system maintenance program:

1. Once every five (5) years, the property owner(s) will be notified to have their septic tank inspected and cleaned if necessary. A registered septic tank contractor must perform this work. The Polk County Health Department shall be authorized to access a \$15.00 renewal fee to be paid by the property owner(s).
2. The property owner(s) to provide the Department of Health with proof, on forms provide by the Polk County Health Department, that a registered septic tank contractor has inspected the septic tank and cleaned if necessary. If upon any inspection the septic tank contractor determines that cleaning is unnecessary, the septic tank contractor shall determine a date prior to which the septic tank shall be reinspected and cleaned if necessary. The Polk County Health Department shall provide the owner(s) with an updated Notification of Mandatory Maintenance.
3. The Polk County Health Department shall be authorized to require that the septic tank be cleaned, if necessary, and that the mound, drainfield and septic system be in good working order and does not appear to be sanitary nuisance.
4. In that the Polk County Health Department does not receive proof that the septic tank has been inspected within the appropriate time frame, the Polk County Health Department shall be authorized to request, via written notification that the property owner(s) provide proof within three (3) months from the date of the written notification. If proof is not received by the Polk County Health Department within three (3) months, the Polk County Health Department shall be authorized to notify the property owner(s), via certified mail, that the property owner(s) is not in compliance with this ordinance. The property owner(s) would then have thirty (30) days to provide proof; otherwise, the case will be forwarded to the Polk County Board of County Commissioners' Codes Enforcement Board.

However, it is recommended all residents perform routine maintenance under the guidance of the licensed septic tank organization.

Daniel O. Haight, M.D.
Director

POLK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
977 E. Memorial Blvd., Lakeland, FL 33801-1968
Phone (863) 499-2550 Fax (863) 499-2654

Lynne M. Saddler, M.D., M.P.H.
Assistant Director