

The Watershed Protection Plan stakeholder committee unanimously agreed with SJRA staff's recommendation that SJRA's OSSF rules be amended to provide similar standards as Montgomery and Walker counties. Specifically, SJRA's recommendations included more stringent design criteria for new OSSFs and increased requirements for inspection of aerobic septic systems.

The proposed changes were put out for public comment during the summer and fall of 2015 and were adopted by SJRA's board of directors at their December meeting. A copy of the revised rules can be found on SJRA's website.

Annual Aerobic Septic System Inspections

The most significant improvement to the rules is the requirement that all aerobic septic systems be inspected at least once every four months by a properly-licensed individual. This requirement has been in place in Montgomery County for many years, and in most cases, homeowners fulfill this requirement by signing an annual inspection contract with a licensed OSSF inspector.

SJRA is not proposing any fee associated with this new requirement, however, a typical annual contract with an inspector costs approximately \$200 and includes the three required inspections and any associated reporting. If a homeowner does not wish to pay a third-party inspector, SJRA's rules allow them to conduct their own inspections if they take certain training or meet certain requirements. Here is the actual rule:

The inspection and maintenance of all OSSFs identified as Aerobic Treatment Units must be performed by a maintenance provider, licensed by the TCEQ, under a written contract between the property owner served by the OSSF and such TCEQ-licensed maintenance provider, with one exception. If the OSSF serves a single family dwelling that is the primary residence of the property owner, the property owner may conduct the maintenance, provided:

- A. the property owner is a maintenance provider licensed by the TCEQ;
- B. the property owner holds a valid Class D or higher wastewater treatment license;
- C. the property owner has satisfactorily completed a TCEQ-approved Basic Maintenance Provider Course; or

Continued on page 48




Falcon Flooring

Family Owned & Operated


936.539.6321
608 F.M 2854 Conroe Texas


*Carpet
Wood
Tile
Showers
Back Splashes
&
Stairs*

LIVE at the OWEN THEATRE



*The
Players*
Theatre Company





Murder *at the* Howard Johnson's

January 29
through
February 14

Written by **Sam Bobrick & Ron Clark**
Directed by **Jim Walker**

All's fair – and funny – in this light and suspenseful comedy about a love triangle in a Howard Johnson Motor Inn where things go horribly wrong over and over.

For tickets & information call **936-539-4090**

225 Metcalf Street • www.owentheatre.com

Funded in part by the Conroe Commission on Arts and Culture

WHAT IS A SEPTIC SYSTEM?

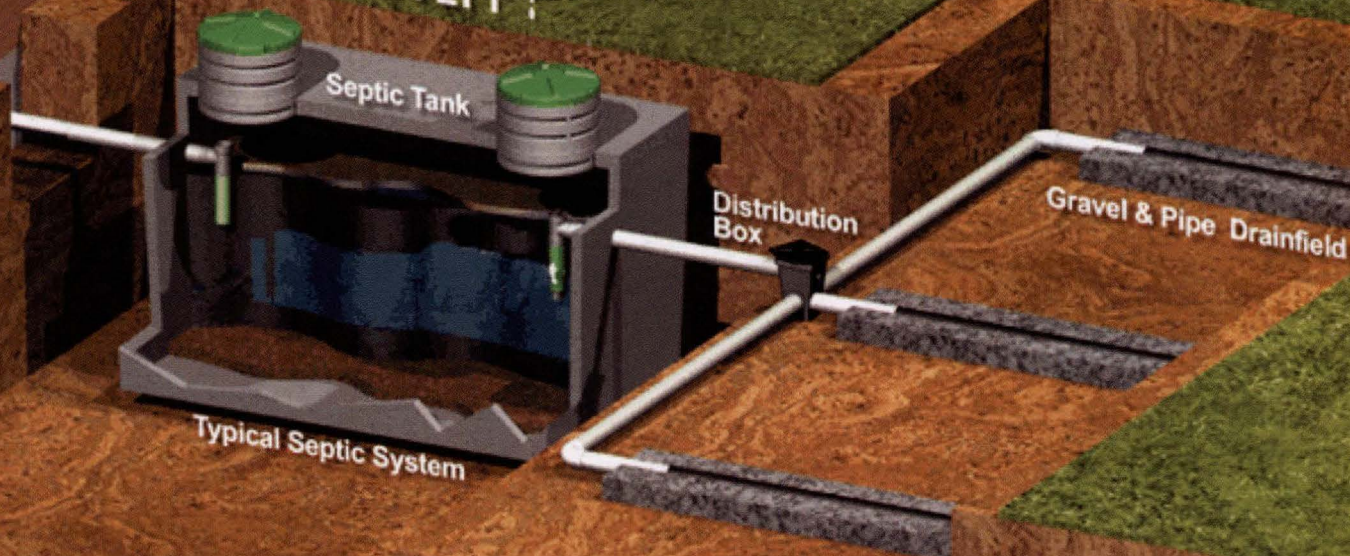


Figure 1. Conventional OSSF (Source: www.structural-design-solutions.com)



Cameron Optical

Therapeutic Optometrist
& Glaucoma Specialist

Family Owned and
Operated with
over 60 years of
combined Experience

We Take Care of The Whole Family!



Offering
Children's
Eye Exams

Walk in appointments available

Schedule Your Appointments Online At:
www.cameronoptical.com

"The moment your Doctor's diagnosis inspires your trust"

936.448.1200

15260 Hwy 105 West • Suite 127
Montgomery, TX 77356

Located In the WaterPoint Marina and Shopping Center next to CVS

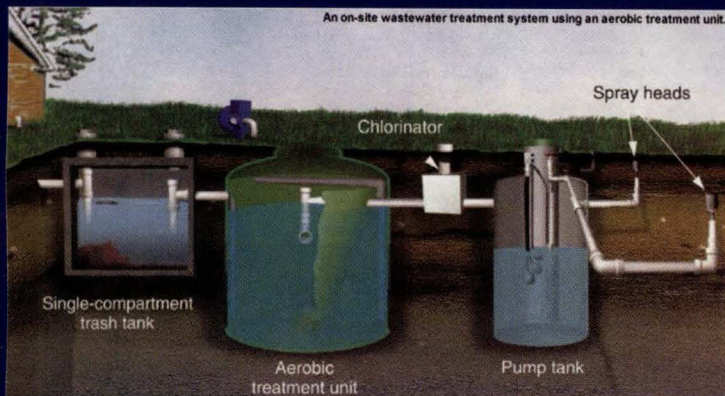


Figure 2. Aerobic Treatment Unit
(Source: www.flower-mound.com)

D. the property owner has satisfactorily completed the OSSF - Aerobic/Surface Application System Orientation and Maintenance Course entitled - General Guidance for Monitoring Aerobic Treatment Units, Disinfection Units, and Spray Fields in Texas (B-6235) offered by the Agrilife Extension, Texas A&M System.

Overview of OSSFs: There are two basic types of OSSFs (see figures): (1) Conventional OSSF Systems (Figure 1) which separate liquids from solids in a septic tank and then send

Continued on page 50

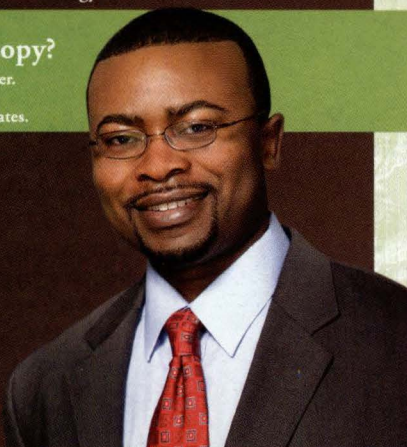
Get Your REAR In GEAR

NOW OFFERING OPEN ACCESS COLONOSCOPY
NO OFFICE VISIT NEEDED

– Nelson Tajong, M.D. –

Board Certified in Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine

- Are you over 50?
- Have you had your colonoscopy?
YOU could be at RISK for colon cancer.
It is the second leading cause of cancer related deaths in the United States.



LAKESIDE
GASTROENTEROLOGY
& LIVER SPECIALIST

New Office Location
690 South Loop 336 West
Suite 215

Conroe, TX 77304
936-828-3962

*Conveniently located right past the
Conroe Regional Hospital entrance inside the
Life Check Pharmacy building off of Loop 336 West*

9305 Pinecroft Drive Ste 304
The Woodlands, TX 77380

936-828-3962

www.drnelsonstajong.com

Like Us on Facebook!
[Facebook.com/drnelsonstajong](https://www.facebook.com/drnelsonstajong)

*Most Insurances, including Medicare, accepted.

Nelson Tajong, M.D. is Board Certified in Gastroenterology with years of experience in performing endoscopic procedures. Dr. Tajong specializes in the diagnosis, treatment prevention, and management of all digestive diseases including liver disease. He strives to ensure that every patient has a safe and pleasant experience with all procedures.



- ★ Wood
- ★ Carpet
- ★ Granite
- ★ Ceramic Tile
- ★ Natural Stone

Conroe 936-442-2050

3999 I-45 North
Conroe, TX 77304

Magnolia 281-356-2078

32901 FM 2978
Magnolia, TX 77354

Spring 832-610-3193

26415 I-45 North
Spring, TX 77380

*Family Owned
and Operated
Since 1972*

HGTV
HOME

Shaw



GREASE MONKEY[®]

Oil Changes & More

936-582-5030

Walden Rd

WALMART

GREASE MONKEY

18550 Highway 105 West

Highway 105 W

Montgomery, Texas 77356

Lakeconroegreasemonkey.com

Owned and Operated by Montgomery Residents
Bill & Sally Dalton

Oil Changes

State Inspections

Brakes • Tune Ups

Air Conditioning

Wipers • Tire Rotation

Transmission Service

Air Filters



50% Off

Brake Pads

& Shoes

On Any Brake

Service

\$5.00 Off

Any Full

Service

Oil Change



Mon-Fri 8am to 6pm • Saturdays 8am to 5pm • Sunday Closed

that liquid to a drain field by means of underground pipes or other proprietary products; and (2) Aerobic Treatment Units (Figure 2) which add oxygen to the process of treating wastewater by using any of several types aeration or "fine air bubble" systems to increase the level of treatment in the tank by encouraging aerobic bacteria growth and allows sedimentation and disinfection to occur before discharge of the liquid. Aerobic systems produce a better quality wastewater effluent for final treatment and disposal. The TCEQ sets the minimum standards, issues operator licenses, delegates permitting and enforcement to local governmental entities, and periodically reviews their programs. SJRA is the authorized agent for TCEQ within 2,075 feet horizontally of the Lake Conroe shore at elevation of 201 feet (MSL).

How do I permit a new OSSF?

For new OSSFs, the recently adopted amendments made only minor technical changes to the design criteria, such as the types of components that must be used if the site is in a flood plain.

The procedures for applying for a permit to install a new septic system have not changed. If a homeowner is installing a new septic system, the following items must be submitted to SJRA for review before a permit to install the new system can be issued:

1. Professional Design of the system performed by a Professional Engineer or a Registered Sanitarian.
2. Soil and Site Analysis performed by a Professional Engineer or a Registered Site Evaluator.
3. Maintenance contract signed by both the installer and the homeowner (only applicable to aerobic treatment units).
4. Receipt of an Affidavit to the Public filed at the County Clerk's office in which the property is located.
5. SJRA OSSF Application completed by the homeowner.
6. Permit Fee.

Important Links and Contact Information:

For more information on the Lake Conroe Watershed Protection Plan or the OSSF program, visit: www.sjra.net/lake-conroe/ or call 936-588-1111. ♦

PRICES NO ONE CAN BEAT!



NOW DOING DRAPES AND PANELS

ASK ABOUT THE NEW POWerview MOTORIZATION FROM HUNTER DOUGLAS



R & B WINDOW FASHIONS

Experience Quality, Honesty, and Excellent Customer Service

FULL SERVICE REPAIRS

DON'T CUSS, CALL US!

randbblinds@consolidated.net

14543 Hwy 105 Ste. 404 • Conroe, TX

www.randbwindowfashions.com

Thank You For A Great Year!

936.588.0743