

March 14, 2017

MCHD assists with workshops on how to prolong life of septic systems

MOBILE, Alabama — The Onsite Sewage Division of the Mobile County Health Department is participating in a series of free workshops to help the public learn how to prolong the life of their septic system. The events are sponsored by the Mobile County Conservation District and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management's Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program.

Two more workshops have been scheduled. The next one is Thursday, March 16, at 6 p.m. This will take place at Bayou La Batre Community & Senior Center, 12745 Padgett Switch Road in Irvington.

The fourth workshop in the series will be Thursday, March 23, at the Grand Bay Community & Senior Center at 11610 U.S. 90 in Grand Bay. It will also start at 6 p.m.

These meetings will be focused on homeowners in Sector 2 who reside south of Airport Boulevard, west of McDonald Road and across to Grand Bay. To confirm if a residency is in Sector 2, contact Tracey Hall with the Mobile County Conservation District by phone at 251-441-6505 (ext. 3) or by email at thall@mobile-county.net.

These workshops will provide attendees with a basic understanding of the operational and maintenance activities of conventional septic systems. The topics to be covered will include health and safety considerations, an overview of how to inspect and maintain the system, and instruction on how activities in the home can impact the system. This program will provide answers to some of the most frequently asked questions, including when to pump out a tank and what can and cannot go down the drain.

At the end of the workshop, free septic tank pump-out vouchers will be given to qualified participants in attendance.

MCHD's Onsite Sewage Division regulates onsite sewage disposal systems (OSDS/septic tanks) permitting, installation, inspections for all of Mobile County — residential and commercial. Onsite regulates septic and sewage tank pumpers and requires an annual inspection of the pump truck prior to use. All persons involved in the OSDS industry are required to be licensed by the Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board.