



**Advantage
Inspection**

4020-300 Wake Forest Rd. Raleigh, NC 27609 Ph# 919-850-2526

SEPTIC SYSTEM INSPECTION

Date: September 9, 2025
Report for:
Inspection address: 270 Wiggins Rd, Louisburg, NC 27549
Realtor:
System Design:



The following photo log and inspection dissertation provide visual and procedural inspection information at the time of the inspection. Please skip to the conclusion in the report to see any repairs and/or suggestions that may be considered necessary.

PHOTO LOG:

Septic tank location.



Inlet riser location shown.



Inlet riser shown damaged.



Inlet riser shown less than 3" above grade.



Outlet riser location shown.



Outlet riser shown less than 3" above grade.



Outlet riser fitted with an improper lid.



Outlet shown open for inspection.



Outlet lid shown missing a handle



Root intrusion shown around outlet inspection port - outlet riser not properly sealed to tank.



Deterioration shown around the outlet inspection port.



Effluent level shown at least 5" below a normal effluent level.



Outlet pipe penetration shown not properly sealed.



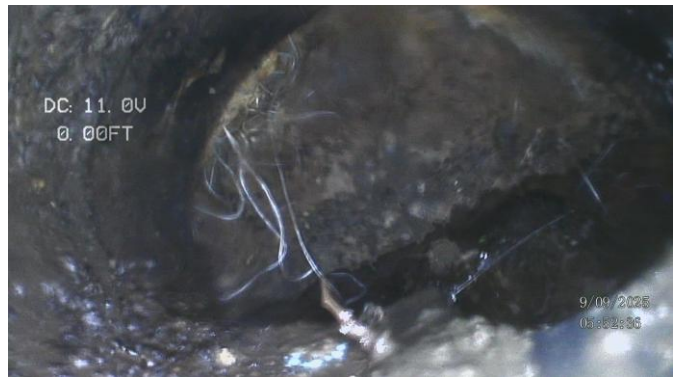
Inlet side shown from the outlet inspection port - root intrusion shown around the inlet inspection port.



Outlet line shown scoped.



Outlet line shown scoped with an obstruction and root intrusion.



Distribution box location shown.



Distribution box shown open for inspection.



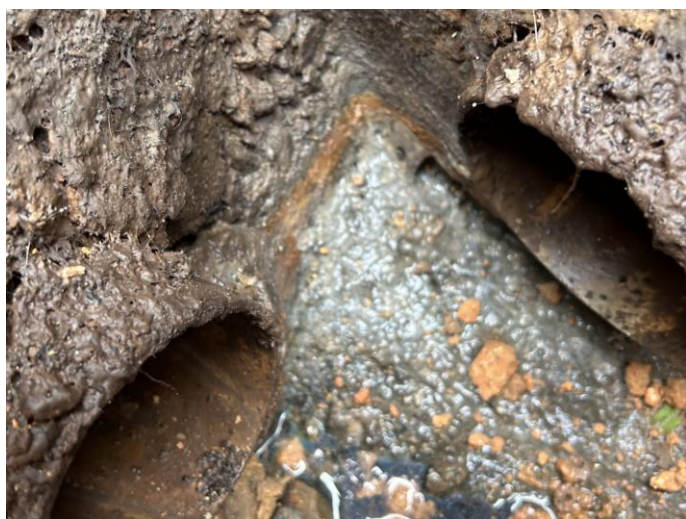
Distribution box lid shown damaged/deteriorated.



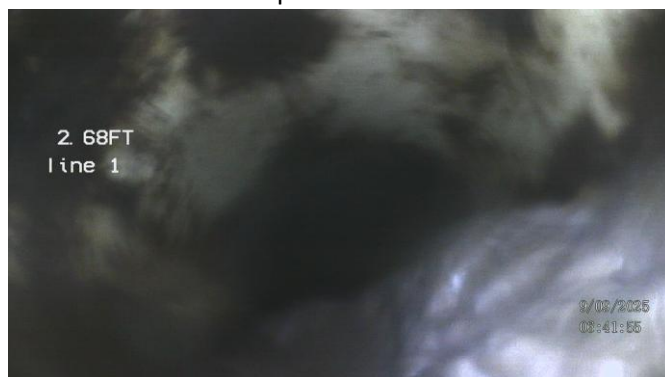
Root intrusion shown in the distribution box.



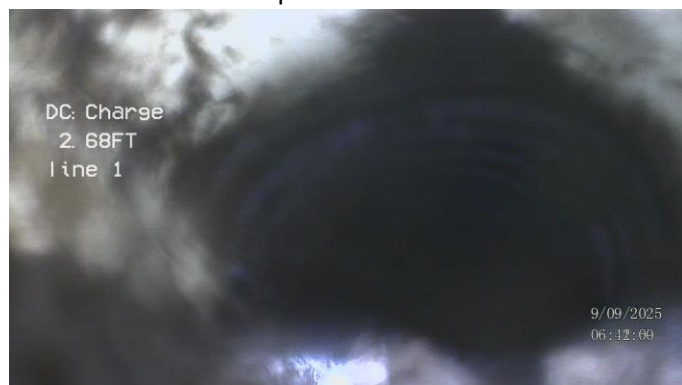
Solids shown in the distribution box.



Drain line 1 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



Drain line 1 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



Drain line 1 shown scoped with accumulated solids and root intrusion.



Drain line 1 shown scoped with accumulated solids and root intrusion.



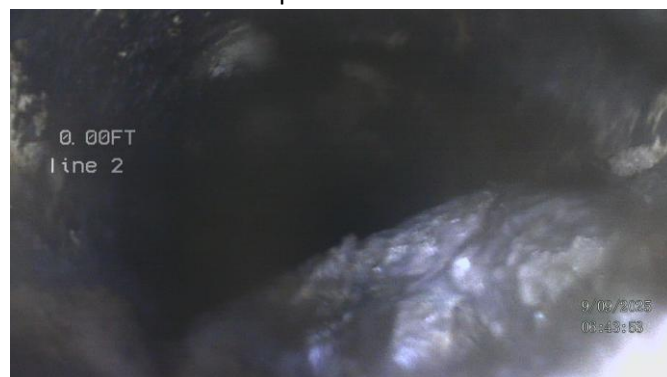
Drain line 1 shown scoped with accumulated solids and root intrusion.



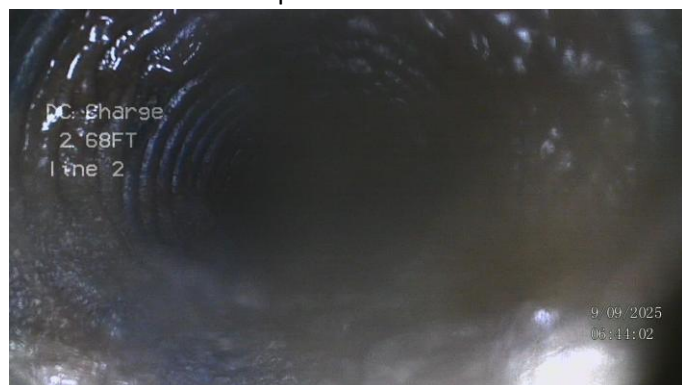
Drain line 1 shown scoped with accumulated solids and root intrusion at 7.38FT, could not go further.



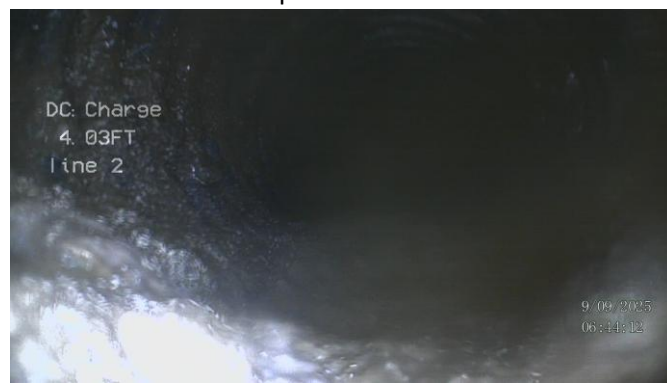
Drain line 2 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



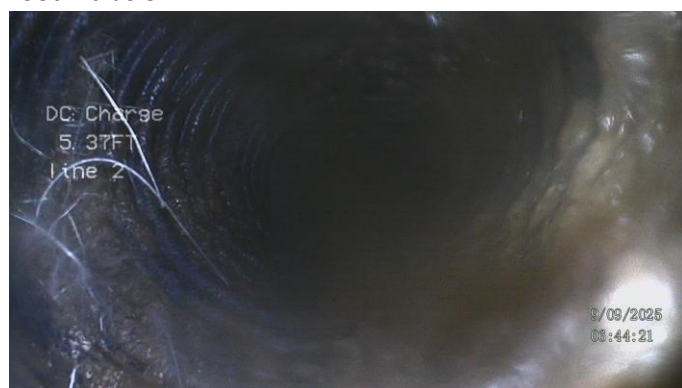
Drain line 2 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



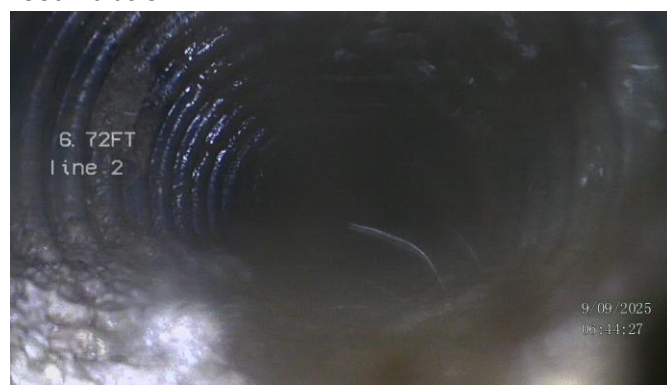
Drain line 2 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



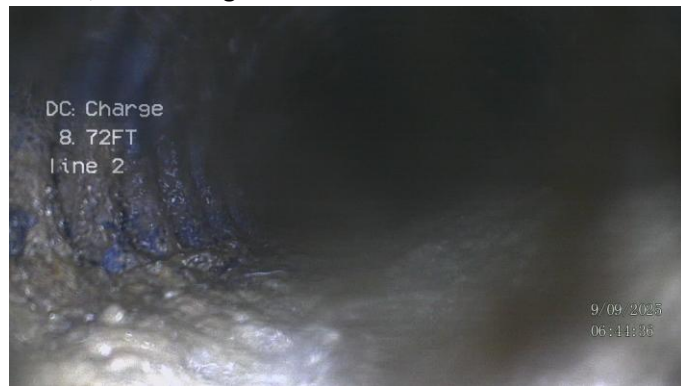
Drain line 2 shown scoped with accumulated solids and root intrusion.



Drain line 2 shown scoped with accumulated solids and root intrusion.



Drain line 2 shown scoped with accumulated solids at 8.72FT, could not go further.



Drain line 3 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



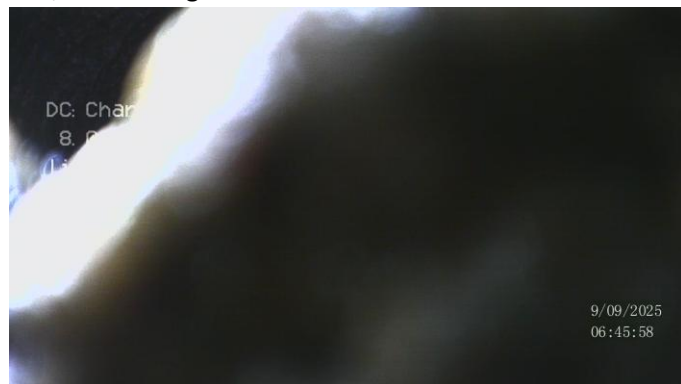
Drain line 3 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



Drain line 3 shown scoped with accumulated solids.



Drain line 3 shown scoped with accumulated solids at 8FT, could not go further.



Area of drain field.



Area of drain field.



Septic tank location shown covered up post-inspection.



Inspection Limitations:

- The septic tank was not pumped at the time of the inspection. It is not possible to inspect or report on physical conditions with respect to the septic tank interior below the wastewater effluent levels or to fully determine the condition of the drain field lines due to being installed below the surface dirt grade.
- The property lines were not actively marked at time of inspection. No measurements could be taken to determine the relation of the property lines to the components of the septic system.
- The home has been vacant for an unknown period, so the system was not inspected under normal operating conditions. Any speculation about the operating efficiency of the system is inconclusive when the system has been inactive for more than thirty days**
- The main water supply line to the home was not identified at time of inspection - supply line is below ground and not visible. No measurements could be taken to determine the relation of the water supply line to the components of the septic system.

System Type: Conventional Gravity– Gravity feed distribution systems are the most commonly found/used septic systems and utilizes gravity alone to pass wastewater effluent from the septic tank to the drain field.

System Design: Three Bedrooms – Load requirements have been confirmed by information determined at the site inspection as being what is specified on the original installation permit.

Kitchen Disposal: Not Installed- A food waste disposal system is not recommended to be used with a septic system.

Field Observations: The septic tank and drain field site grades to the right side of the lot at the field location.

Tank location: Approximately 20 feet away from the back of the house foundation.

Water Source: Private Water

Repair Area: A repair area for this system is designated on the originally issued permit. A repair area is an area on the property reserved/designated for a future drain field in the event that the originally installed drain field fails.

Description.	Good	Comments	Fair	Poor
Field View (visual only observations) grade of yard	x	Grading to right of lot		
Rust / Cracks on tank Interior		Not pumped not Inspected		
Outlet tee			X	
Upper crust inlet*		Not inspected		
Upper crust outlet*	2"			
Lower sludge inlet*		Not inspected		
Lower sludge outlet*	2"			

*The Health Department recommends the combination of upper crust and lower-level sludge to be maintained less than 1/3 the total volume of the inlet chamber depth and that the lower-level sludge to be more than 3 inches below the inlet to the outlet drain trap. **Preventive maintenance pumping of the septic tank is not considered necessary at this time. Maintenance pumping is recommended to be performed every four to five years.**

Observations & Recommendations:

1) The septic tank was located approximately 20 feet off the back of the house's foundation. This septic tank uses a single chamber design. The inlet riser was partially excavated due to the riser being below grade. The riser lid was noted as damaged and to avoid further damage the inlet riser, it was not excavated any further or opened for inspection.

Note:

- **Roots were noted as being present around the inlet inspection port.**
- **The inlet riser lid was noted as being damaged.**
- **The inlet chamber riser was noted as being at dirt grade. When installed risers are to be no less than 3" above surrounding dirt grade. It is suggested that the riser be extended to meet current state installation standards.**

2)The outlet was excavated due to its riser being below grade. The outlet inspection port was opened and inspected. Accumulated solids were noted as being at an acceptable level. Solid accumulation in the single chamber tank will subject the drain field to higher levels of solids and should be avoided. The plastic T outlet baffle was secure to the tank.

Note:

- **Roots were noted as being present around the outlet inspection port due to the outlet riser not being properly sealed to the tank.**
- **The outlet riser was noted as being fitted with an improper riser lid (custom made metal lid).**
- **The outlet lid was noted as missing a handle.**
- **The outlet pipe penetration was noted as not being properly sealed.**
- **Deterioration was noted as being present around the outlet inspection port.**
- **The outgoing drainline from the septic tank to the distribution box was scoped and inspected. The outgoing drain line was noted as having a blockage and root intrusion at the beginning of the line.**

- **The outlet chamber riser was noted as being at dirt grade. When installed risers are to be no less than 3" above surrounding dirt grade. It is suggested that the riser be extended to meet current state installation standards.**

3) Water levels under normal conditions inside the septic tank would place the wastewater effluent level at the invert of the outlet drain (the bottom edge of the outgoing drain pipe) and typically, the outgoing drain pipe is installed at a lower elevation inside the septic tank than that of the incoming drain pipe. The effluent level inside the septic tank was observed to be as much as 5" inch total inside. The house is known to have been inactive for an unknown period of time, and inactivity can be considered as a reason for some reduction in effluent level as the effluent can evaporate through the whole house waste pipe system at a rate of up to 1" a month (equates to approximately 20 gallons of water loss) in some cases. The home would have had to have been vacant for close to 5 months for the current effluent level to be considered attributed to naturally occurring evaporation alone. If this system is not verified as having been inactive for a very long period of time, leaking in the septic tank itself should be considered as the reason for the lower effluent level. Leak checking should be performed in order to verify the structural integrity of the septic tank. Leak checking requires that the effluent level inside the tank needs to be filled back to a normal level and then checked after a 24- hour time period. Only a 1/2" reduction in water level is allowed to be present within this time period. If more than 1/2" in reduced lower effluent levels are present, the tank structural integrity is considered to be compromised and repair/replacement are considered to be required. **Due to the lower effluent level currently inside the septic tank, have a qualified septic tank installation contractor provide further evaluation in order to determine if the structural integrity of the septic tank is compromised (leaking) and provide a repairs/replacement if considered necessary.**

4) Probing for the distribution box in the known area of the drain field was successful. **Adverse** conditions were present inside the distribution box. A field distribution box distributes equal volumes of wastewater effluents to the typically installed multiple individual drain field lines. The general area of the drain field was walked to inspect surface water. No evidence of prior or current adverse conditions of wastewater breaching the surface dirt grade was observed at the time of the inspection.**

Note:

- **The distribution box was noted as having roots present inside (see photo).**
- **The distribution box was noted as having solids collected in the bottom. Solids can collect inside of the distribution box and deteriorate the interior sidewalls of the distribution box. Solids collected inside of the distribution box can also flow into the drain lines resulting in restriction of flow.**
- **The distribution box lid was noted as being damaged/deteriorated.**
- **The drain lines were scoped and inspected. Drain line 1 was noted as having accumulated solids and root intrusion throughout.**
- **The drain lines were scoped and inspected. Drain line 2 was noted as having accumulated solids and root intrusion throughout.**
- **The drain lines were scoped and inspected. Drain line 3 was noted as having accumulated solids throughout.**

5) The normal aging of this system will decrease the drain field's ability to dissipate wastewater effectively during periods of heavy loading. Over time drain fields will decrease in the

effectiveness of dissipating wastewater effluent into the surrounding soils and is a naturally occurring aging process of the system. It should be expected that this system will provide service for as much as fifty years if properly maintained.

6) Limit any/all drive traffic in the known area of the septic tank and drain lines. The drain field works by absorbing water in the soils as well as by some evapotranspiration. The soil beneath the drain field lines need oxygen so that the microbes in the soil can treat the effluent from the drain field. Permanent structures built/placed over a drain field can restrict the oxygen flow into the soil and will restrict the evapotranspiration process. Additionally, a big risk to placing structures over a drain field or allowing drive trafficking over the drain field is causing the lines to collapse. Also, the soil can compact around the trenches, which may not allow for percolation. Repairing the drain field or moving it may require an entirely new system depending on your system age and the regulations for your local authority. Do not place structures or drive vehicles over the known area of the septic system/drain field.

7) Limit use of the septic system to body waste only. Disposal of female hygiene products, contraceptives, latex gloves, baby and facial makeup wipes large amounts of paper products and kitchen waste products or plastic can shorten expected drain field life expectancy.

8) For more information about a septic system and the responsibilities associated with it, go to the following web site: <http://www.soil.ncsu.edu/publications/Soilfacts/AG-439-13/index.htm>

Conclusion:

The septic system was fully evaluated at the time of the inspection. **Adverse** conditions were shown to be present in the system itself that require further evaluation and/or repairs to be made by a qualified contractor or subsequent observation that warrants further evaluation by the local health department**

Adverse Inspection Observations:

- **Roots were noted as being present around the inlet inspection port.**
- **The inlet riser lid was noted as being damaged.**
- **Roots were noted as being present around the outlet inspection port due to the outlet riser not being properly sealed to the tank.**
- **The outlet riser was noted as being fitted with an improper riser lid (custom made metal lid).**
- **The outlet lid was noted as missing a handle.**
- **The outlet pipe penetration was noted as not being properly sealed.**
- **Deterioration was noted as being present around the outlet inspection port opening.**
- **The outgoing supply line from the septic tank to the distribution box was scoped and inspected. The outgoing drain line was noted as having a blockage and root intrusion at the beginning of the line.**
- **Due to the lower effluent level currently inside the septic tank, have a qualified septic tank installation contractor provide further evaluation in order to determine**

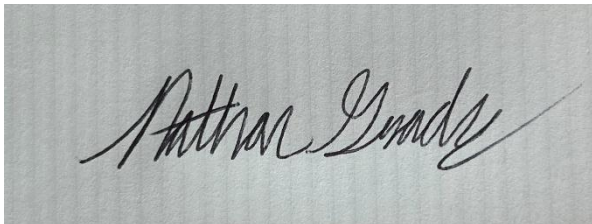
if the structural integrity of the septic tank is compromised (leaking) and provide a repairs/replacement if considered necessary.

- The distribution box was noted as having roots present inside (see photo).
- The distribution box was noted as having solids collected in the bottom. Solids can collect inside of the distribution box and deteriorate the interior sidewalls of the distribution box. Solids collected inside of the distribution box can also flow into the drain lines resulting in restriction of flow.
- The distribution box lid was noted as being damaged/deteriorated.
- The drain lines were scoped and inspected. Drain line 1 was noted as having accumulated solids and root intrusion throughout.
- The drain lines were scoped and inspected. Drain line 2 was noted as having accumulated solids and root intrusion throughout.
- The drain lines were scoped and inspected. Drain line 3 was noted as having accumulated solids throughout.

The following preventative maintenance suggestions are recommended to be followed:

- The inlet chamber riser was noted as being at dirt grade. When installed risers are to be no less than 3" above surrounding dirt grade. It is suggested that the riser be extended to meet current state installation standards.
- The outlet chamber riser was noted as being at dirt grade. When installed risers are to be no less than 3" above surrounding dirt grade. It is suggested that the riser be extended to meet current state installation standards.
- Keep the landscape at the septic field location free of large shrubs/trees and mowed. This will prevent root intrusion into the drain lines and help promote transpiration of the effluent being dispersed from the system.
- It is suggested that a preventative maintenance treatment of a root killer be added in the septic system to kill off any root mass intruding into the drain lines. Any products (specified for septic system use) that consist mostly of copper sulfate will kill off existing roots and prevent further root growth from growing in and around the drain lines.

Please note that suggestions are not a "required repair". Suggestions are a means to improve on the system's ability to process wastewater in the home based on more recent requirements mandated in newer system installation or as a personal safety concern alone. Inspections cannot require an older system (even if more recent repairs have been noted) to be brought up to installation standards other than what was required at the time of the original installation and/or noted repairs currently existing in the system. Suggestions are only provided so that the current service provider can be aware of ways to improve/enhance the operation of the existing system in order to extend the useful life of the system.



9/9/2025

NCOWCICB State License # 13044I

North Carolina Onsite Wastewater Contractor Inspector Certification Board

Disclaimer:

Because of the visual nature of this septic system, it is not possible to inspect or report on physical conditions with regard to the septic tank interior below the wastewater effluent levels if the inspection was performed without pumping of the septic tank or the drain field lines due to being installed in the sub surface dirt grade. The inspector can only address those areas that are readily accessible at the time of the inspection. A septic system inspection is a "snapshot" of the system at the time of the inspection; it is designed to educate a buyer or seller about the system, not to replace the obligation of a home seller to disclose known defects. Observations made may require speculation on the part of the inspector in the analysis of how the system has been provided for and what the expectations of the system may be. A septic system inspection is not a guarantee or warranty of the condition of the system; neither is it a guarantee that conditions will not change in the future. Advantage does not make any representation to the "life expectancy" of the tank or the system. Our inspection is based on a one-time field observation and recommendation.

We recommend that appropriately licensed professionals carry out all repairs. Your real estate contract may include this as a stipulation as well. We also recommend that the buyer retain all repair work orders, receipts, and guarantees for future reference. If Advantage Inspection performs an inspection of the system after repairs are completed, the repair work orders, and receipts must be made available to the inspector at the time of the re inspection. Some repairs, such as back flushing of the septic drain lines, cannot be confirmed visually, and at times the repair receipts are the only indication of the nature and suitability of the repair. Please ensure that relevant repair receipts will be available for view by your septic system inspector during the re inspection, if asked to perform.

*This evaluation/inspection meets the requirements of the state and local environmental health service agencies with respect to required observations and/or notation of limitations present at the time of the inspection.

** Only an official of Environmental Health Services Department can qualify a system as being failed.