



## PLANNING SERVICE

### NON MAINS DRAINAGE INFORMATION

Town and Country Planning Act 1990  
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995  
Town and Country Planning (Applications) Regulations 1988

*Please complete this form if your proposal includes the use of non-mains drainage*

In order that Northumberland National Park Authority and the Environment Agency can adequately assess the suitability of proposals for the use of non-mains drainage, we require the completion of this form. All the relevant information requested must be supplied. Failure to do so will result in your planning application being treated as invalid. It should be noted that completion of this form does not in itself amount to compliance with the requirements to undertake a non-mains drainage assessment specified in DETR Circular 03/99.

1. Please indicate distance to nearest mains drainage:.....  
(If less than 100m, please justify why connection cannot be made)  
Mains drainage information is held by Northumbrian Water Ltd  
Tel: 0191 383 2222
  
2. Number of occupiers of proposed development:  
  
Full time: .....  
  
Part time (e.g. non-domestic premises): .....
  
3. Numbers of previous/existing occupiers:  
  
Full time: .....  
  
Part time (e.g. non-domestic premises):.....
  
4. What method of foul drainage is proposed? *Please circle as applicable*  

Package Treatment Plant	Septic Tank	Cess Pool	Other
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5. a) Is this a new or a change to or replacement of an existing system? .....

b) Is it proposed to utilise an existing system? .....

6. If discharge to soakaway is proposed, please attach percolation test results (see notes). If discharge is to a watercourse, please give details:

7. A plan showing the location of the proposed non-mains drainage apparatus in relation to the rest of the site should be supplied at no greater than 1:500 scale, if this has not already been included in the planning application. The plan should indicate the location of any watercourses, springs or boreholes.

8. *Package treatment plant only*  
If a Package Treatment Plant is proposed, please supply details of either the plant capacity or plant manufacturer and model

9. *Septic tanks only*  
If a septic tank is proposed, please supply details of either the tank capacity or plant manufacturer and model.

10. *Cess pool only*  
If a cess pool is proposed, please indicate why this method has been chosen in preference to alternatives such as a package treatment plant or septic tank. It should be noted the use of cess pools is contrary to Environment Agency policy and will not normally be an acceptable means of foul drainage disposal.

Please advise capacity of cess pool (min capacity 18 cubic metres):  
.....

Note: a discharge consent from the Environment Agency may be required for discharge from a treatment plant to watercourse or soakaway.

NOTES:

**Percolation Test**

Avoid carrying out this test in extreme weather conditions such as drought, frost and heavy rain.

a) Excavate three holes 300mm square to a depth of 250mm below the proposed invert level (bottom of the pipe) of the land drain and space them evenly along the proposed line of the sub surface irrigation system.

b) Fill each hole with water to allow to seep away overnight

Next day, refit each hole with water to a depth of no more than 300mm and observe the time in seconds for the water to seep away completely.

d) Divide each figure by the depth of water in millimetres placed in the hole. This answer gives the time required (in seconds) for the water to drop 1 mm.

*This is the **percolation value** (in seconds)*

e) The average figure for the percolation value (V) is obtained by summing all three values and dividing by three.

f) If the percolation value exceeds 100sec/mm, then ground conditions may be unsuitable for discharge from a septic tank system and an alternative means of disposal will have to be considered to avoid ponding of septic effluent on the surface due to inefficient soakage.

g) For domestic premises, the floor area of soakaway land drains (A - square metres) required may be calculated from:

$$A = P \times V \times 0.25$$

Where,

P is the number of persons served by the tank

V is the percolation value described above

If in doubt, consult your professional advisor