

Dear Extended Treatment Package System Owner,

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) would like to take this opportunity to provide some information about the treatment component of your septic system. This is a reminder of the annual service and testing of the treatment unit that is vital to your system's performance, drainfield life, and required as a condition of your septic permit. Improper operation and maintenance could lead to premature failure and costly replacement of your drainfield. The issuance of the septic permit for your property required a treatment component in order to install the drainfield. Without the septic permit the construction of buildings necessitating sewer connections on your property would not be possible.

Extended Treatment Package Systems provide pretreatment to your wastewater prior to its discharge to the drainfield portion of your septic system. These treatment units reduce waste strength and nutrients (particularly nitrogen) in wastewater. For more information on these systems and your drainfield please view the *Aerobic Treatment Systems and Drainfields: What You Need to Know* brochure on the DEQ website located at [http://www.deq.idaho.gov/media/657393-aerobic\\_treatment\\_systems\\_and\\_drainfields\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/media/657393-aerobic_treatment_systems_and_drainfields_brochure.pdf).

Per your member agreement contract you are required to work with your Operation and Maintenance Entity and Service Provider to ensure that annual servicing and testing of your treatment unit is scheduled. Protection of public health and the environment is a team effort. Your participation in this program is a critical aspect to its success and is a requirement of the septic system permit for your property.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality