



**ORDINANCE NUMBER** 2014-12-15A  
**ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEM ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, it is the desire and duty of the Putnam County Board of Commissioners to protect human health; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Putnam County Board of Commissioners that it is necessary to enact this Ordinance to safeguard human health;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, STATE OF INDIANA, as follows:

**ARTICLE I**  
**TITLE**

This Ordinance shall be titled "Onsite Sewage System Ordinance", and may be cited as such. Referenced shall be Ordinance Number 2014-12-15A

**ARTICLE II**  
**PURPOSE**

The general purpose of this Ordinance is to safeguard public health by assuring that residential and commercial onsite sewage systems in Putnam County are properly permitted, installed, maintained and operated in an environmentally safe manner. This Ordinance shall be administered by the Putnam County Health Department ("the Department") and failure to comply with the standards and requirements set forth herein shall be subject to the penalties provided herein. Any decision by the Department in the enforcement of this Ordinance may be appealed to the Putnam County Board of Health Board by any person claiming to be adversely affected by such decision.

The specific purpose of this Ordinance is to incorporate changes in the law promulgated by the Indiana State Department of Health, regarding residential onsite sewage systems under Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3, effective May 9, 2014 and rules regarding commercial onsite sewage systems under Rule 410 IAC 6-10.1, effective May 17, 2014.

*Prepared by Lisa Ziner, Putnam Co. Health Dept*

**ARTICLE III  
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ONSITE  
SEWAGE SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

- A. All persons constructing and operating onsite sewage systems, whether as owner or lessee, shall comply with the provisions of the Ordinance herein and any provisions set forth in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3 regarding residential onsite sewage systems or Rule 410 IAC 6-10.1 regarding commercial onsite sewage systems, whichever is applicable. Said rules promulgated under the Indiana Administrative Code are incorporated by reference herein.
- B. No person shall throw, run, drain, seep, or otherwise dispose into any of the surface waters, ground waters, public or private property, or cause, permit, or suffer to be thrown, run, drained, allowed to seep, or otherwise dispose of any organic or inorganic matter from a commercial or residential onsite sewage system which would cause or contribute to a health hazard or water pollution.
- C. All dwellings, including mobile homes, that are not connected and that cannot be connected to a public sanitary sewage system shall have an onsite sewage system that includes a septic tank and a soil absorption field that has not failed as defined in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3. All dwellings constructed after December 21, 1990 and requiring an onsite sewage system shall have an onsite sewage system built according to the standards of Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1, Rule 410 IAC 6-8.2 or Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3, as applicable at the time of construction of the onsite sewage system. Repair or replacement of any onsite sewage system shall comply with the standards as set out in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3 and the Ordinance herein. Compliance must also be met with any future amendments to any and all rules and regulations concerning onsite sewage systems which may be issued by the Indiana State Department of Health and the Department.
- D. All components of a private/residential onsite sewage system, including a septic tank outlet filter, shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
- E. The minimum size of any new onsite sewage system shall be limited to the equivalent system for a two (2) bedroom house or a design daily flow of 300 gallons of wastewater per day.
- F. Septic tank outlet filters, in accordance with Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3, shall be installed and maintained in all onsite sewage systems being repaired.
- G. In cases where existing structures are replaced with new structures or dwellings, the property owner or his representative shall provide proof to the Department that there is an existing onsite sewage system in place, which meets the requirements of the Ordinance herein and Rule 410 IAC 6-8.3 or Rule 410 IAC 6-10.1, whichever is applicable, prior to the issuance of a building permit from the Putnam County Planning and Building Office and prior to any construction.