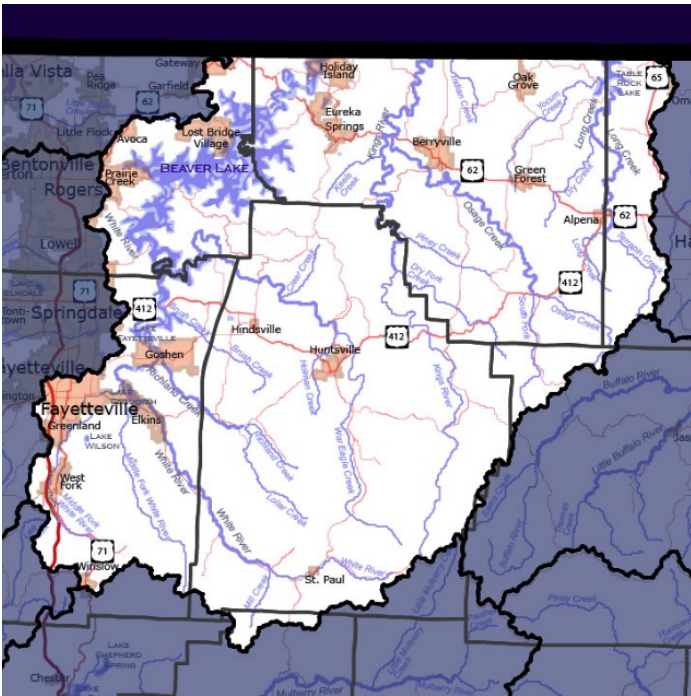
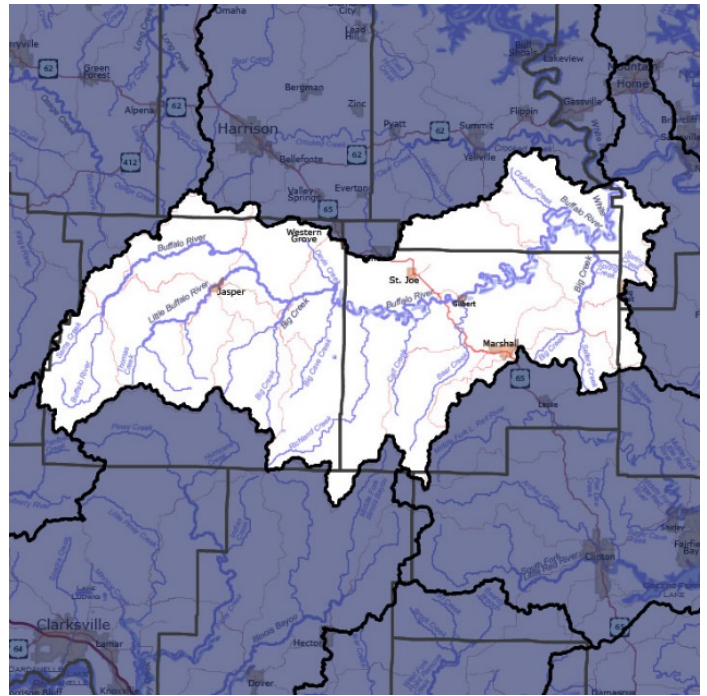


Septic Remediation Program

What is the Septic Remediation Program? Funded by the Natural Resource Division of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture, the Septic Remediation Program offers technical and financial resources to homeowners in the **Beaver Reservoir Watershed** and the **Buffalo River Watershed** to repair or replace failing septic systems.



Beaver Reservoir Watershed



Buffalo River Watershed

Who is eligible to participate? Homeowners must meet two criteria to qualify for funding through the program: 1) reside in the HUC-8 Beaver Reservoir Watershed or the HUC-8 Buffalo River Watershed and 2) have septic system that is deemed failing or in need of repair by the Arkansas Department of Health.

Find your watershed by entering your address at: https://watersheds.cast.uark.edu/find_your_watershed.html

How do I know if my septic is failing or in need of repair? Septic systems require regular maintenance. Most importantly, septic tanks should be pumped every 3-5 years. Advanced systems require more regular maintenance. Watch for the following warning signs:

- Wastewater backing up into household drains
- Bright green, spongy grass in the drainfield, especially during dry weather
- Pooling water or muddy soil around septic system components or in your basement
- A strong odor around the septic tank and drainfield

If you are experiencing any of the above issues and have not had your tank pumped in the last 3 years, schedule a pumping as soon as possible!

I think I have a septic problem – who should I contact? A septic professional! The Arkansas Department of Health maintains licensing for septic professionals, and you can search the database here:

<https://onsitewastewater.adh.arkansas.gov/DesignatedRepLicenseesNearYou/Show-DesignatedRepLicenseesNearYou-Table1.aspx>

If you have had your tank pumped and are still experiencing problems, contact an Environmental Health Specialist at your local County Health Unit for assistance. If you'd like to discuss our grant and loan program, email septic@h2ozarks.org or call the contact listed below.

How does H2Ozarks program work? We offer the following technical and financial assistance:

- ✓ Assist with septic system evaluation and diagnosis
- ✓ Connect homeowner with septic professionals
- ✓ Answer questions about the design and permitting process
- ✓ Provide a combination of grant and loan funds for the needed repair or replacement

Homeowners will qualify for a grant and/or zero-interest loan based on the following income guidelines:

ANNUAL INCOME LEVEL	GRANT (no repayment)	0% INTEREST LOAN
less than \$20,828	90%	10%
\$20,829 - \$31,242	70%	30%
\$31,243 - \$41,657	50%	50%
\$41,658 - \$62,485	30%	70%
\$62,486 - \$83,314	10%	90%
more than \$83,314	0%	100%

The program will reimburse homeowners for both the septic design (by a Designated Representative) and installation costs (by a licensed septic installer) up to a total of \$30,000 per project. Grant funds are free money for the homeowner and do not require repayment, and zero-interest loans can be re-paid with low monthly payments up to a ten-year term.

NOTE: Total income is determined by what is listed (generally on line 9 of the first page) on the IRS Federal Tax Return Form 1040.

How to apply: Contact the program manager for an application packet and to see if you qualify.

Stefanie Reynolds

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(479) 225-2963

Why does H2Ozarks administer this program? H2Ozarks is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to improving water quality in the Upper White River Basin and beyond in the Ozarks, which includes the Beaver Reservoir Watershed and the Buffalo River Watershed.

Septic systems treat residential wastewater and are most common in rural areas where access to centralized sewer systems is limited. While septic systems are generally minimally disruptive to the environment, systems that are inadequate or improperly maintained can become ineffective and lead to failures that pose risks to both public and environmental health.

This program aims to repair or replace failing septic systems and prevent potential pollutants from entering the groundwater and nearby surface waters. Both watersheds we serve with this program are important Arkansas watersheds. Beaver Lake, part of the Beaver Reservoir Watershed, serves as the drinking water supply for most of northwest Arkansas. The Beaver Reservoir Watershed covers parts of Benton, Washington, Madison, Carroll, Boone, Franklin, and Newton Counties. The Buffalo River is an extraordinary resource that covers Newton, Searcy, Marion, and Baxter Counties as well as small parts of Madison, Boone, Pope, Van Buren and Stone Counties.

www.h2ozarks.org/septic/arseptic
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