

North Hutchinson Island Septic Removal Project

Frequently Asked Questions

If I am in the benefited area to receive central sewer, do I have to connect?

Yes. Florida Statute No. 381.00655 and the current St. Lucie County Ordinance (Code 1982, § 1-7.6-41; Ord. No. 93-01, pt. A, 3-25-1993) require that you connect to an available central sewer system after written notice that service is available to your property.

Whose responsibility is it to pay for the construction and connection costs?

The benefited property owner(s).

How will I pay for the construction and connection costs?

The construction and connections costs are proposed to be assessed as a non-ad valorem fee through the Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) process.

Are there any exceptions to this requirement?

No. Connection is mandatory for anyone receiving official notification that service is available to the property. Failure to comply as required in the ordinance may result in code enforcement procedures against the property owner.

What if I have more than one septic tank on my property?

All tanks must be abandoned. On-site Sewage Treatment and Disposal System means a system subject to Department of Health Rule 64E-6, F.A.C., that contains a standard subsurface, filled, or mound drainfield system; a septic tank, an aerobic treatment unit; a laundry wastewater system; a grease interceptor; a dosing tank; a solids or effluent pump; a waterless, incinerating or organic waste-composting toilet; or a sanitary pit privy.

Can I convert my septic tank into a cistern for rainwater?

Florida Administrative Code permits abandoned septic tanks to be repurposed as a cistern if the procedures spelled out in 64E-6.011, F.A.C., are followed.

What do I have to do to connect to central sewer?

St. Lucie County will notify you in writing when service is available in your area and will provide the information you need to establish your sewer account with St. Lucie County Utilities. The county will also provide information on abandoning your septic system and connecting your house to the central system.

When can I expect to hook up?

The proposed project schedule subject to Board of County Commissioner approval is provided on the project website and updated as needed.

If roads, driveways, sidewalks or mailboxes are affected by construction, will the county fix the damage?

Yes. The county requires that the area be restored to at least its original condition. Some landscaping may not be saved or replaced if it is located in the right-of-way. Homeowners with site-specific concerns will be able to discuss them with the engineer during the design phase.

How will the county address vacant lots?

A future connection will be provided for during design and construction of the collection system. The non-ad valorem fee may be instituted while the lot is still vacant and would be due for payment similar to any other non-ad valorem fee that may be associated with the property.