BMAP Septic Upgrade Incentive Program
Frequently Asked Questions

General Info:



The BMAP SUIP provides financial assistance to eligible homeowners in Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP), Alternative Restoration Plan (ARP), and Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) areas. Funding helps homeowners upgrade their conventional septic tank to an enhanced nitrogen-reducing septic system.

Funds are limited and available on a first-come first served basis. Homeowners may apply to receive the reimbursement, or have a qualified installer apply on the homeowner's behalf and receive the reimbursement directly from the County.

Use the lookup tool to find out if a property is eligible for the program. If it is eligible, please fill out the interest form selecting BMAP SUIP to begin the application process.

Q: What is the BMAP Septic Upgrade Incentive Program (SUIP)?

A: The goal of the program is to improve the health of water bodies in Orange County that are not meeting water quality standards set by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). A major source of water pollution in Florida is nitrogen-rich wastewater from conventional septic tanks. Wastewater can travel to nearby bodies of water and fuel algal blooms.

Orange County developed the Septic Upgrade Incentive Program (SUIP) to encourage homeowners to upgrade existing conventional septic systems to enhanced systems that reduce nitrogen by at least 65%.

The BMAP SUIP provides financial reimbursements to homeowners. Payments may be made to the homeowner or directly to a qualified installer. This program is funded by the FDEP Water Quality Improvement Grant Program.

Q: Can anyone in Orange County apply for this grant?

A: No, potential applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Your home must be located in unincorporated Orange County in one of the following areas:
    - Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) area excluding the Wekiwa Spring and Rock Springs Priority Focus Area (PFA)
    - Alternative Restoration Plan (ARP) area
    - Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) area
- Your home must be in an area where there are no plans to install sewer lines. If your home is not in the Orange County Utilities Wastewater Service Area, have your provider confirm there are no plans for sewer in writing and provide that documentation with your application.
- Use the SUIP Lookup Tool to check if you are eligible for the grant.
- Only residential homeowners are eligible for the program.
- If you'd like to be pre-screened for the program and receive additional information, enter your address and contact information into the Septic Upgrade Incentive Program Interest Form and select BMAP SUIP.

Q: My conventional septic system is in good working order; do I still need to change my system?

A: No. The BMAP SUIP is a voluntary program that encourages eligible homeowners to upgrade to enhanced nitrogen-reducing septic systems.

At this time, only property owners with homes in the Wekiwa PFA are required to upgrade broken or defective conventional septic tanks to enhanced nitrogen-reducing systems.

Q: Can I apply for the grant if I am replacing my septic with a similar system?

A: No, you must replace a conventional system with an enhanced system that reduces nitrogen by at least 65%. It must be installed by a licensed and qualified installer.

Q: Will the grant cover the entire cost of a new septic system?

A: The goal of the grant is to assist with the difference in cost between conventional and enhanced nitrogen-reducing systems. In most cases, it will not cover the entire cost. You will need to negotiate the cost with your installer.

Q: If I recently replaced my septic system, can I apply for a grant?

A: If you meet all the eligibility requirements and replaced your conventional system with an enhanced nitrogen-reducing system you may apply. The system must have been installed on or after July 1, 2024, and proper documentation must be submitted.