Wekiwa Priority Focus Area
Septic Upgrade Incentive Program
Frequently Asked Questions

General Info:

The **Wekiwa PFA Septic Upgrade Incentive Program (Wekiwa PFA SUIP)** provides qualifying homeowners in the Wekiwa Priority Focus Area (PFA) up to **$10,000** toward upgrading a conventional septic system to an enhanced nitrogen-reducing septic system.



Homeowners may receive the reimbursement directly or have a qualified septic installer or licensed plumber apply on their behalf.

Use the lookup tool at the top of the page to find out if a property is eligible for the program. If it is eligible, please fill out the interest form selecting Wekiwa PFA SUIP to begin the application process.

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

A: In 2016, the Florida Legislature passed the Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act to help protect Florida's springs. Orange County received a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to improve the water quality of Wekiwa and Rock Springs, which are designated as "Outstanding Florida Springs" and federally designated as a Wild and Scenic River.

Excess levels of nitrogen, particularly nitrate from septic tanks, have been found to have a negative impact on these springs. 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 Wekiwa PFA SUIP provides payments of up to $10,000 to eligible homeowners. Payments may be made to the homeowner or directly to a qualified installer.

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 both the Wekiwa and Rock Springs Priority Focus Area (PFA) and unincorporated Orange County.

SUIP EXPANDED TO ALL UNINCORPORATED ORANGE COUNTY RESIDENTS

As of October 2026, all unincorporated Orange County residents who meet program requirements, regardless of their wastewater service provider, are eligible to apply. Previously, this program was only available to Orange County Utilities wastewater customers.

- 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, ask your provider to confirm in writing that there are no plans for sewer service. Submit 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

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

A: No. You do not need to replace a working conventional septic system unless a repair or modification requires an upgrade. Upgrades to existing conventional septic systems on lots one acre or less will be required to obtain a repair or modification septic permit. Beginning March 1, 2025, FDEP and Florida Department of Health (FDOH) will require that the system be upgraded from a conventional system to an enhanced system that reduces nitrogen by at least 65%.

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: Not necessarily. The grant helps cover the difference in cost between conventional and enhanced nitrogen-reducing systems. In most cases, it will not cover the entire cost. You are responsible for any remaining costs and should discuss the total price with your installer.

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

A: You may qualify if the system was installed on or after November 1, 2020, and you meet all other program requirements. The replacement must be an eligible enhanced system that reduces nitrogen by at least 65%, and proper documentation must be submitted.