Community’s initial action is to survey the residents with a preliminary petition to establish level of interest – if 70% of residents have interest in a septic elimination project, the petitions should be returned to NCC for further action.

Once interest level is established, NCC will proceed as funds are available for a feasibility study. Study includes establishing a potential service area, preliminary design and cost estimate.

NCC will hold a public meeting to present the conceptual design and project cost estimate. During or shortly after the meeting, NCC will distribute petitions to the community with project cost share:
  - Support is needed from at least 70% of property owners. Support from 70% of the service area will commit 100% of the property owners within the petitioned area.
  - All petitioners must connect within one year of written notification that sewer is available
  - All property owners pay project fees within 90 days of written notification that sewer is available
    - Payment required even if not connecting
  - Sewer service fees assessed even if not connecting
  - Individual petitions are not shared publicly

Septic Elimination Project Funding
  - Petitions are valid for 2 years
  - If project is introduced into capital program, funds would be in next fiscal year budget for detailed design and construction
  - Design and construction process is multi-year process
  - If cost exceeds 20% of project cost share reflected on petition, community may retract petitions

Septic Elimination Project Example
  - Initial project cost estimate: $1,000,000
  - Total Cost Per Property (for 25 property owners) = $1,000,000/25 = $40,000
  - Project Fee for each property= 70% of $40,000 = $28,000
  - If Project Fee increases $5,600, property owners still pay
  - If Project Fee increases more than $5,600, property owners may retract petition
  - Project cost estimate does not include:
    - Septic System Abandonment
    - Lateral Connection (whether gravity or pump)
    - Sewer Connection Fees

For more information, please contact Elinor Blackwell at (302) 395-5711 or eblackwell@nccde.org