

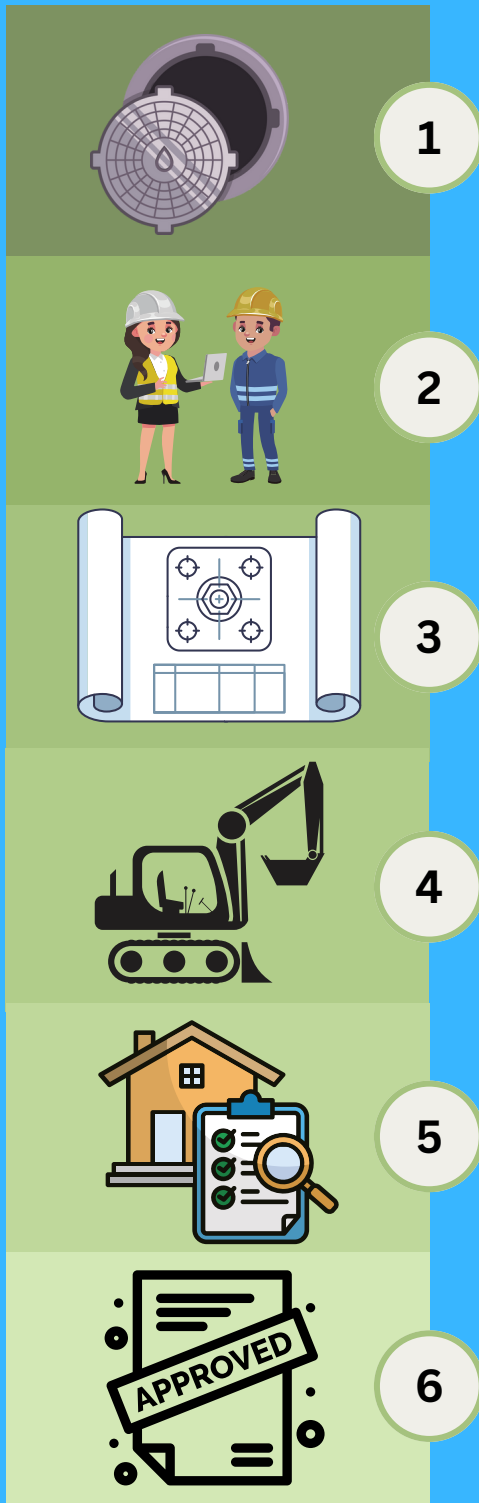
Cesspool Conversion in Hawaii

What Homeowners Need to Know

Why Replace Your Cesspool?

State law requires it: All cesspools must be converted to approved systems or connected to sewer by 2050 (Act 125, 2017).

Step-by-Step Conversion Process



Check for Sewer Availability

- Check to see if sewer connection is an option. If available, this is the top choice and preferred option. It is often the most cost-effective option and may be required.
- Contact your County Wastewater Division or Department of Environmental Services to ask about sewer availability.

Hire a Licensed Civil Engineer

- A licensed civil engineer will help you develop a plan for a new Individual Wastewater System (IWS). An IWS is an on-site system for treating and disposing wastewater.
- Find an engineer using the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) Professional Licensing Search Tool or the State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH)'s engineer list.

Engineer Submits Plans to DOH Wastewater Branch

- Engineer prepares and submits plans and required forms to DOH Wastewater Branch for approval.
- Common types of approved IWS include conventional septic systems and aerobic treatment units (ATUs). Other alternative systems may also be used such as passive aerobic systems that still require a septic tank (i.e., Eljen, Presby), bioreactor gardens, composting toilets and incinerator toilets.

Hire a Licensed Contractor

- After plans are approved by DOH, you must hire a licensed contractor holding an A, C-9, C-37, C-37a, or C-43 license. You can check the licensing using DCCA's Professional Vocational Licensing Search Tool.
- Hiring a contractor holding a license other than what is required will not be accepted by the DOH Wastewater Branch.

Construction and Inspection

- Your licensed engineer should be monitoring the construction of the IWS. At the end of construction, the engineer is required to submit a final construction inspection report with a completed contractor certification form to the DOH Wastewater Branch.

Final Approval

- After the engineer submits all completed forms to DOH Wastewater Branch, the Wastewater Branch will issue an approval to use letter to the engineer if there are no discrepancies. The forms are required to receive final approval. If you do not receive an approval to use, the new IWS will be in non-compliance.

