

Dear Property Owner,

In an effort to obtain more scientific knowledge about how septic systems are performing throughout the State of Arizona, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is conducting a blind study sampling septic systems throughout Arizona. ADEQ has contracted Atlas Technical Consultants LLC (Atlas) to conduct this sampling survey and to write the final report. Atlas is looking for volunteers that would be interested in participating in this blind study. This blind study will include the following field activities and reporting parameters:

- Access to a property is voluntary. Atlas is hoping for at least quarterly events, four events over the course of one year, and if you, the property owner, are willing to participate in the study. There is also a long-term, more involved on Atlas' part, sampling protocol that can be discussed in more detail if you are willing.
- As this is a blind study **no** personal or identifying information will be provided within the final report. Instead, a generic identifier will be used within the final report to differentiate between properties with septic systems that will be sampled throughout the state.
- **No** enforcement actions will be taken by ADEQ should it be found that a system is deemed out of compliance with the state regulations.
- Field activities will consist of sampling influent and effluent (the flow into and the flow from) the septic system for the following analytical parameters:
 - 5-day Biological Oxygen Demand
 - 5-day Carbonaceous Oxygen Demand
 - Total Suspended Solids
 - Total Nitrogen
 - Total Coliform
 - Fecal Coliform
- Prior to the beginning of the sampling process, it may be necessary to uncover a septic system using heavy equipment. This will be dependent on the type of septic system installed and, possibly, the age of the septic system.
- Following field activities any disturbance made to the cover above the septic system will be restored to approximate initial condition.

If you, the property owner, would be interested in participating in this blind study please contact Meghan Railsback, a Staff Geologist with Atlas Technical, at the following email: meghan.railsback@oneatlas.com or by phone at 913-744-7377.

Thank you,

Atlas Technical Consultants LLC
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480-894-2056

ADEQ Water Quality Unit contact: Linneth Lopez – Environmental Engineering Specialist III
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