

## **How to Expose the Outlet End of Your Septic Tank**

1. Locate where your septic pipe exits your house.
2. Locate your septic tank by probing in the area where your septic pipe exits the house. A good starting point would be to start probing 10 feet out from the foundation of the house. Some tanks run away from the house others run along side the house.
3. Once you locate your tank you will need to continue probing until you find the end of the tank where the sewage leaves the tank going to the septic field. (Most tanks are approximately 10 feet long.)
4. Once you locate the very end of the tank go back 6 inches and start digging; the outlet hole is usually right in the center of the tank.
5. Once you uncover the outlet hole you will also need to lift off the outlet lid (lids vary in size and shape). The lid may be round, square, or rectangular and be 6 inches up to 2 feet in diameter.
6. You should be able to look right into your septic tank now and see sewage leaving the tank once water is used in the house.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Lee County Health Department Environmental Health Division at (815) 284-3371. If at the time of your call someone is not available please leave your name and number and someone will return your call shortly.