TALBOT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Office of Environmental Health, 215 Bay Street, Suite 4, Easton, MD 21601
Phone (410) 770-6880 Fax: (410) 770-6888

TO: APPLICANTS FOR 2016 WET SEASON SOIL EVALUATION

FROM: DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

DATE: April, 2015

The following procedures are to be used in preparing your site for wet season soil evaluation for individual on-site wastewater disposal:

- **The applicant must secure the services of a soil consultant, (see attached list), to prepare the site for evaluation by this office. For your review, we have enclosed a copy of the Consultant Guidelines for Soil/Site Evaluation Preparation.**

- **The applicant or their agent must submit a completed application packet.** The submittal must include an application for soil/site evaluation for individual wastewater disposal (copy attached), required fees as stipulated in the Consultant Guidelines, a copy of the deed of the property indicating when the parcel was created, (Note: This requirement is not applicable to applications associated with the subdivision of land.), and a copy of the soil consultant's site evaluation report. **(Please note that the property owner must sign the soil evaluation application.)**

- **The applicant or their agent must file the completed application packet prior to <u>January 15, 2016.</u>**

Upon receipt of the completed application packet, this office will assign a Sanitarian who will be responsible for evaluating the consultant's report and conducting the site evaluation. The wet season testing period in Talbot County is determined by the height of the seasonal ground water table, which is affected by rain or snow events. Lack of rainfall (drought conditions) may shorten or eliminate the wet season testing period. Since we have no way of predicting the extent of the wet season testing period, we cannot guarantee that all test requests will be processed. Please be advised that this office may require additional fieldwork and/or testing when marginal soils or high ground water tables are present.

The property owner is responsible for maintaining the site until all testing is completed. Maintaining the site insures that the corners of the Sewage Disposal Area (SDA), as staked by the soil consultant, remain in place so that this office can determine the extent of the area to be evaluated. The owner must also insure that all piezometers and monitoring wells remain intact so that this office can conduct the necessary groundwater table monitoring and soil testing. If the proposed SDA is not maintained, it will cause delays in the processing of your application.

When the soil/site evaluation has been completed, a copy of your application will be forwarded to you outlining the results (Approval or Disapproval).

If the site has been approved, you will be required to contract with a licensed professional surveyor to prepare a plat identifying all items as noted on the approved site evaluation application. **The property owner is responsible for maintaining the integrity of the site until such time as a final survey plat has been submitted and approved. Failure to maintain the site will result in additional fees and delays in securing plat approval.** A plat review fee will be assessed based on the approved 2013 Schedule of Fees for the Office of Environmental Health.

If the site has been disapproved, you will be advised to contact this office to discuss the findings. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (410) 770-6880 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.