



*Lake Auburn Watershed Septic System Inspection Program*  
**Summary Announcement**

The Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission is pleased to announce the adoption of a financial and technical assistance program designed to assist homeowners in the Lake Auburn watershed required to comply with the City of Auburn's updated subsurface wastewater ordinance (Chapter 60, Article XII, Division 4, Sec. 60-952 (a)(2)(e)).

**The Commission will fund the cost of septic inspections through a reimbursement program.**

A Request for Qualifications process is underway to seek qualified septic system inspectors. A maximum reimbursement amount for septic inspection fees will be calculated through this process. Upon completion of this process, the Commission will send a letter to homeowners providing a list of vetted, qualified septic system inspectors, a maximum reimbursement amount for inspections, an overview of eligibility requirements, and a set of instructions to receive reimbursement.

**The Commission will provide support to homeowners required to comply with the ordinance.**

Aside from reimbursing inspection fees, the Commission will provide coordination and limited technical assistance to homeowners. Staff will be available to provide basic information about septic systems, septic system maintenance, and potential effects to drinking water quality; to help coordinate inspection services; to process reimbursements; and to coordinate the necessary follow-up required by the City of Auburn based on the results of the inspection.

An informal educational meeting for the public to learn more about the ordinance and inspection program will be organized for Spring. Information regarding date, time, and location will be provided in the letter that will be sent to homeowners providing the reimbursement information.

**The Commission will provide additional one-on-one support to interested homeowners.**

In addition to ensuring individual septic systems are not a potential source of contamination to Lake Auburn, staff will work with homeowners to provide a stormwater assessment at no cost. This assessment includes evaluating a property for stormwater runoff pathways and areas of erosion and identifies solutions to slow down and filter runoff before it leaves the property to make its way to Lake Auburn. Staff will provide recommendations for management on-site and general recommendations to help keep Lake Auburn clean.

Information on reimbursements and qualified inspectors will be sent to homeowners as soon as it is available. For more information, please reach out to Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission staff via email at [lakeauburnwater@lakeauburnwater.org](mailto:lakeauburnwater@lakeauburnwater.org) or visit [www.lakeauburnwater.org](http://www.lakeauburnwater.org).