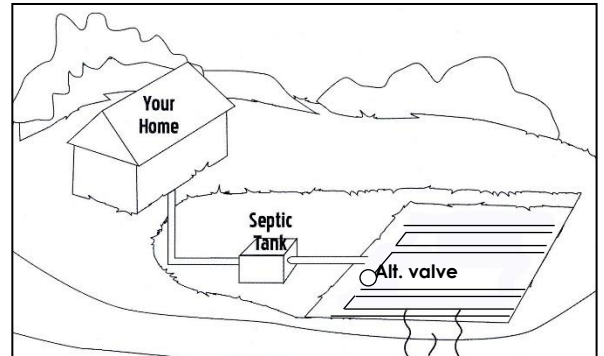


TRENCH SYSTEM

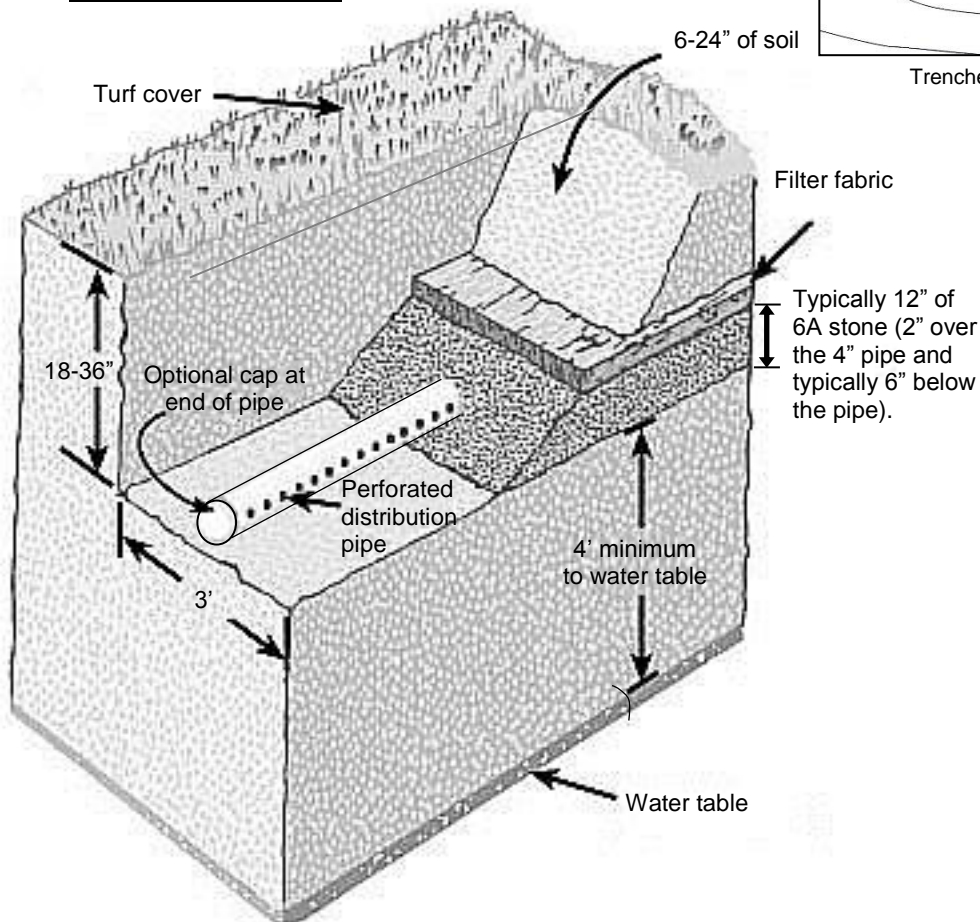
A trench (also known as a tile trench) system consists of four-inch, perforated pipes, installed horizontally in three-foot wide by one-foot deep (or more, if specified by permit) trenches of 6A stone. The pipes are perforated to allow liquid effluent to drain on the stones and surrounding soil. Filter fabric and loam (or lighter) soil cover the trenches. Specific requirements vary with each permit.

Typically, an alternator valve channels effluent to one half of the system. Each year, the valve should be turned to allow effluent to flow to the other half of the system, so the original half can rest and rejuvenate.



Trenches separated by an alternator valve.

Trench cross-section



Disclaimer: This informational guide is intended to provide general information for homeowners. The guide is not intended to be comprehensive. For more complete information, refer to the Kalamazoo County Sanitary Code.