WHERE IS MY SEPTIC SYSTEM?

One method to locate a septic tank is by probing with a metal rod or by listening to the noise a plumber's snake makes when it contacts the tank inlet. Care must be utilized during the probing as it may damage the inlet fitting or piping.

Another method is by making a water probe with ½" X 6' galvanized water pipe or PVC, threaded on one end. Purchase a pipe-to-hose fitting or use duct tape as a temporary fitting. Turn the water on and sink the probe into the ground. The water will do the digging. Set up a grid pattern and probe every 1 to 2 feet until the tank is found. The top of the septic tank is usually 2 to 4 feet beneath the surface. Legally, septic tanks can be no closer that 5 feet from the house so begin probing 6 to 7 feet from the house. Typically, the septic tank is in the front yard but the system might be in the rear yard or even under a patio slab.