

During the months of August and September, septic testing was completed on Potato Lake in Washburn County. A total of 28 tests were completed in the time frame allowed for the testing. With just over 70 structures with septic systems on the lake, we were only able to hit around 40% of the septic systems. However, more than half of the residents were more than willing to have their septic systems tested, but due to time restrictions, and lack of cabin or house owners not always available to be there while testing was done; only the 28 contacts were checked.

The average size holding tanks on the lake are between 1500-2000 gallons. There were some people that did not know exactly how big the tank was and most tanks that did not know, 8 oz. of the dye were added to the tank for a safer than sorry approach. Once the size of the tank was determined, and the dye was administered, the water was run inside the house or cabin for 20 minutes to get the dye into the septic system, at an attempt to "fill the system up." During this process of filling the system up, the landowners were asked to walk the property and point out the layout of the system, as well as any drain pipes and vent pipes they know of on the property.