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December 1, 2014

PUBLIC NOTICE

On Friday, November 14, 2014, according to a news article in a local Wood County newspaper, Brad Espen, of The Wood County Health Department announced "new septic system regulations will likely begin in January". He continued citing that "fewer than half of the estimated 14,600 homes" were installed with a Wood County permit. He is assuming the remainder are not in compliance with the Health Department regulations.

The new regulations, Mr. Espen speaks of, also put a greater licensing burden on the septic haulers, such as N.A.T., with multi-county and multi-truck registration, bonding, education, testing and reporting requirements. These requirements, along with the yearly rate increases, planned by the wastewater treatment plants, for septic waste disposal, will cause the costs of servicing a homeowner's septic system to skyrocket.

The reporting requirements, placed on the hauler by the Health Department, will be a "key" to locating the out of compliance septic systems. They can require the inspection and evaluation of the system. Thus, as the hauler services his customers needs, he brings financial grief to the homeowner in both a higher cost of pumping as well as a possible costly Health Department citation or order.

During the past three years, N.A.T. has lobbied our elected and appointed officials heavily in Columbus. During this time an appointed official made mention of "possible regulatory casualties." Some minor adjustments were made, but, for the most part, the hauler becomes an agent of the Health Department. Private businesses should have no role in regulatory enforcement. Homeowners will not re-act favorably to the hauler reporting to the Health Department.

N.A.T. has a business that is based on customer loyalty. We must be able to provide undivided loyalty to our customer. The reporting requirement places this loyalty in question by creating a conflict of interest, which cannot be resolved. We cannot risk losing the loyalty of one customer, let alone a large percentage of 14,600 possible customers. Our customers are our friends and neighbors; we cannot and will not operate under these conditions.

With that in mind, if the new law takes effect, which is most certain, N.A.T., will no longer license itself for the pumping of residential septic systems. After more than thirty-five years in residential septage pumping, our last day will be December 31, 2014.