



## THE CONTEXT :

### Regulation

As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, , the Township of Melbourne has undertaken the responsibility of cleaning septic tanks. The septic tank cleaning is done every two (2) years. The cost is on the tax bill and the contract has been given to the company Beaugard fosses septiques, according to Bylaw 2019-02. **With this bylaw, the Township of Melbourne wanted to comply with the Provincial bylaw on the evacuation and treatment of sewage from isolated residences (Q-2, r.22).**

Please note that this program is only intended for permanent and secondary residences. Businesses and industries are not touched by this regulation.

### What is the portrait of the emptying of septic tanks in Quebec?

A general trend is noted towards a management by the municipalities of the emptying of septic tanks. If 82% of septic tanks were managed by citizens in Quebec in 2003, this proportion dropped to 57% in 2013 according to the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and the Fight against Climate Change

<http://www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/eau/eaux-usees/residences-solees-en.htm> In 2017, the emptying of septic tanks in Quebec is mainly assumed by municipalities or MRC's.

### Why has the Township of Melbourne decided to take care of the emptying of septic tanks on its territory?

The municipality has a duty of commitment in terms of sustainable development and it wishes to adopt a uniform procedure for the appropriate disposal of sludge and wastewater in order to reduce sources of nuisance, unhealthy conditions and contamination of watercourses, ditches and groundwater. Economic, environmental and legal issues guided the municipality to make this decision.