

University of Maryland College Park

Consent Form

Project Title	Coastal Sea Level Rise/Flooding and Septic Systems Survey
Purpose of the Study	This research is being conducted by Andrew Lazur at the University of Maryland, College Park. We are inviting you to participate in this research project because you are involved with onsite wastewater systems in coastal areas. The purpose of this research project is gathering information from onsite professionals on their perceptions of flooding and onsite systems, the type of policy, operational management practices or technologies used and where there is observed success in mitigating current and projected coastal flooding of onsite systems. The survey results will be shared with participants to facilitate knowledge transfer and discussion of this increasingly important issue
Procedures	A link to a 12-question online Qualtrics survey will be distributed to stakeholders via email. The survey should take about 7 minutes to complete and will ask about the participant's understanding of coastal flooding impacts on onsite systems and ways to mitigate the issue. Example questions include: How would you describe your role in the onsite wastewater field? In which state do you work? Have you observed an increase in onsite systems exposed to flooding? What strategies/remediation approaches has your office employed with systems experiencing flooding? What do you think are effective strategies to remediate the impact of flooding? Proceeding with the survey implies consent and indicates that you are at least 18 years of age; you have read this consent form or have had it read to you; your questions have been answered to your satisfaction and you voluntarily agree to participate in this research study.
Potential Risks and Discomforts	There are no known risks to participating in this research study. You can skip any question you do not wish to answer.
Potential Benefits	There are no direct benefits from participating in this research. However, possible benefits include participants will learn about how their peers or stakeholders perceive the issue and what solutions they have tried to mitigate flooding of onsite systems.
Confidentiality	Any potential loss of confidentiality will be minimized by storing all data in password-protected computers. Only the project investigators will have access to the data. Email addresses may be voluntarily submitted via a link to an anonymous Google form. The purpose of collecting the email address is if the participant was not emailed directly and wants a copy of the survey summary. Email addresses will be stored on the investigators secure University of Maryland computers for a period of 12 months post completion of survey. If we write a report or article about this research project, your identity will be protected to the maximum extent possible. Your information may be shared with representatives of the University of Maryland, College Park or governmental authorities if you or someone else is in danger or if we are required to do so by law.
Right to Withdraw	Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. You may

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and Questions	<p>choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in this research, you may stop participating at any time. Your decision to participate or not participate in this research study will not have a negative or positive impact on your relationship with University of Maryland Extension (UME) and their programs. If you decide to stop taking part in the study, if you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or if you need to report an injury related to the research, please contact the investigator:</p> <p>Andrew Lazur University of Maryland Extension Central MD Research and Education Center 2005 Largo Road Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 301-789-5256 lazur@umd.edu</p>
Participant Rights	<p>If you have questions about your rights as a research participant or wish to report a research-related injury, please contact:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">University of Maryland College Park Institutional Review Board Office 1204 Marie Mount Hall College Park, Maryland, 20742 E-mail: irb@umd.edu Telephone: 301-405-0678 IRBNet #2223260-1</p> <p>This research has been reviewed according to the University of Maryland, College Park IRB procedures for research involving human subjects.</p>
Statement of Consent	<p>Proceeding with the survey implies consent and indicates that you are at least 18 years of age; you have read this consent form or have had it read to you; your questions have been answered to your satisfaction and you voluntarily agree to participate in this research study. You are encouraged to save or print a copy of this consent form for your records.</p>