

# New Septic System at Mt. Sunapee

**Right Product Choice – Fast, Efficient Job**

*By Joanne Ray*

Working fast and efficiently and choosing the right products are key elements in any successful construction job.

That was the case recently at Mt. Sunapee Ski Area in Newbury, NH, when resort management decided to replace their 45-year-old septic system, which services the summit lodge atop the mountain.

According to Jay Gamble, vice-president and general manager at Mt. Sunapee who was the general contractor (GC) of the project, the team chose Presby Environmental, Inc. of Whitefield, NH, to do the work after a year of researching design options.

“When we looked at the solution, we determined that Presby was the best alternative for us because of the high performance of the system,” Gamble said. “The design goes together fast and performs at a high capacity when you have limited space.”

Presby Environmental Inc. opened its doors in 1995 in the small New Hampshire town of Sugar Hill, just north of Franconia Notch and west of Mt. Washington. The 25-employee company develops, manufactures, tests, and markets on-site septic system products that are fairly inexpensive and environmentally safe.

Changing government regulations and increased environmental awareness have drastically increased the cost of installing new or replacing existing septic systems. Presby provides environmentally safer septic systems that have no moving parts and do not require special maintenance.



David W. Presby, owner of Presby Environmental, explains how the Enviro-Septic pipe is held in place with the specified system sand during installation of the Mt. Sunapee Lodge wastewater treatment system.

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Once the couplers and end caps are in place, the black geotextile is pulled to meet the plastic fitting.



Halfway through the placement of the pipe.

## New Septic System

The pipe is placed in the second bed of the Mt. Sunapee wastewater treatment system according to the approved plan.



Presby's Enviro-Septic Wastewater Treatment System works by providing a protected receiving surface that supports the development of a healthy bio-mat that purifies wastewater before it is released into the soil. Within the Enviro-Septic pipe, a well-balanced eco-system is sustained, providing superior treatment performance.

Gamble said a crew of eight replaced the system with 2,000 linear feet of septic pipe on a one-third-acre site.

"We have a work road, but it was about a 1,600-foot vertical climb with 80 truckloads of sand to properly bed the pipes," Gamble said. "There were 10 yards of sand in each load and a total of 846 cubic yards. We had one large excavator, one small excavator and a small dozer there. Because the pipe was light, we brought the pipe up on a hay trailer pulled by a front end loader. We had 198 pieces of 10-foot pipe which took four trips on the hay trailer."

Gamble said the job went quickly.

"Most of the install and first backfill was done in one week," Gamble said. "The whole project took 10 days. The total project cost was \$70,000."

Gamble said the project ran smoothly because the owner of Presby Environmental, David Presby, was on-site supervising the entire project.

"We were the GC of the project but I also intended to hire a technical assistant to supervise the install," Gamble said. "It ended up that David himself was there for the install, which made the project fairly unique." ■



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