

# Evidence that the RMT-1060 is a very high quality tank

The STEP tank being installed in the Lake Tishomingo Sewer Project is the Roth RMT-1060. There have been rumors that this tank is of poor quality. This document presents evidence that the RMT-1060 is a very high quality tank, worthy of use in our community sewer project.

Tim Robbs, P.E., District engineer replies: The project was originally bid with concrete tanks only. During bidding, contractors started telling us the about the difficulty they would have getting concrete tanks into a majority of the back yards in the subdivision. This difficulty would translate into higher costs and lots more damage to homeowner property. We were asked to look into the possibility of using fiberglass or poly tanks.

We contacted the pump system manufacturers, tank manufacturers, MO DNR, and Rural Development to gather what information we could regarding poly tanks. We were told by both manufacturers of the pumping systems (Orenco and Myers) that the only poly tank they would allow their systems to be installed in would be the Roth tank. They said they had experienced a lot of trouble in tanks that were inferior to the Roth tank. They were most concerned with the tank flexing and causing the riser seals or inlet pipes to fail. When installed properly, they did not have that issue with the Roth Tank. This is due to not only the strength of construction (ribbed with internal supports) itself but also to the strict installation requirements required by Roth. The contractor installing the tanks along with our inspector have been trained and certified by Roth to install their tanks. By using a certified installer, the owner is receiving a five year warranty that includes a new tank and \$2500 for the labor to remove and replace the failed tank. Roth is supposed to be the leading poly tank manufacture in the U.S. and their tanks have been approved in 39 states including Missouri and Illinois for septic tank use.

Finally, MDNR and Rural Development also extensively reviewed these tanks and approved them for use on the project. So, as you can see, we did extensive research before we decided to allow these tanks to be installed.

We believe that if we had not allowed the use of these tanks, the project would have been out of budget and more than likely would have never gotten off the ground. This project was originally started to protect the lake from the pollution created by failing septic systems and had we not come in under budget the pollution would have continued and the water quality of Lake Tishomingo would have continued to degrade.

## Summary of points:

1) The tank being installed has been approved by Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources (MDNR) and US Dept. of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA-RD). The tank website is:

[http://www.roth-usa.com/products\\_septic\\_rmt.cfm](http://www.roth-usa.com/products_septic_rmt.cfm)

2) The RMT-1060 tank is the only poly tank that the effluent pump manufacturer (Orenco) will certify for use with its equipment.

3) The RMT-1060 Warranty is the best in the business:

**"MULTITANK Warranty** Roth Global Plastics, Inc. guarantees the Roth MultiTank for a lifetime corrosion protection and five years of labor coverage insurance. Lifetime is the expected service life. See warranty for details."

"The Roth labor coverage insurance is coverage on workmanship and product cost, which includes the replacement and excavation of tank, up to \$2,500. This is subject to proper installation according to Roth's installation manual and the installer must be certified by a Roth Representative. Please contact us for more information on joining our elite group of certified installers"

4) The Roth RMT-1060 or ST-1060, an older model of poly tank, has been approved for septic tank use by 39 states. (See [http://www.roth-usa.com/products\\_septic\\_approval.cfm](http://www.roth-usa.com/products_septic_approval.cfm)). This includes the **Missouri Dept of Health and Senior Services** (2004) and the **Illinois Dept of Public Health**. (These agencies are the state level equivalents of the local county health dept.).

These reports can be found at:

[http://www.roth-usa.com/files/Approval\\_letters/Missouri State Approval Letter.pdf](http://www.roth-usa.com/files/Approval_letters/Missouri_State_Approval_Letter.pdf)

[http://www.roth-usa.com/files/Approval\\_letters/Illinois State Approval Letter.pdf](http://www.roth-usa.com/files/Approval_letters/Illinois_State_Approval_Letter.pdf)

The approval letter from the state of Massachusetts for the tank we are installing, the RMT-1060 is at:

[http://www.roth-usa.com/files/Approval\\_letters/MA RMT Approval.pdf](http://www.roth-usa.com/files/Approval_letters/MA_RMT_Approval.pdf)

The Mass. approval letter gives a detailed account of the stringent requirements the tank had to pass to be approved.

5) Our engineer, Tim Robbs, has checked into statements made by the Jefferson County Private Sewer Systems Supervisor, T. McDonald. According to a St Louis Region Mo DNR engineer, A. Appelbaum, Mr. McDonald made these statements about the tanks being installed at Lake Tishomingo:

a) *"He said Jefferson County had experience with these tanks and out-lawed them for use in on-site systems several years ago."*

b) *"He said there is another newer version of the tank that is being tested in three applications in the County but it is a reinforced and ribbed tank."*

On June 10 Tim spoke with J. Manley, Jefferson County Code Enforcement Division, Chief of Inspections. Mr. Manley told Tim that a poly tank had been outlawed for use in onsite systems in Jefferson County, but Mr. Manley didn't know if it was the RMT-1060 (the tank we are using). Mr. Manley also said he told residents that the county has no jurisdiction over the project because MDNR oversees centralized sewer projects and any concerns they might have need to go through Mo DNR or the District.

Tim has since sent Mr. Manley information on the RMT-1060 and offered to meet him onsite to inspect the tank and an installation. Tim explained that we would do whatever was needed to make him comfortable with the tanks.

Update (June 14, 2011):

Tim talked to Mr. McDonald (TM) about the Roth RMT-1060 tank. TM said that Jefferson County will allow the use of poly tanks for private septic systems, but currently the county only allows tanks that are about 3/4 inch thick, and the Roth tank has a nominal thickness of 1/2 inch. Tim explained that the Roth tank has internal supports and is ribbed, but that made no difference. TM said that to get any kind of approval from the county we would have to go to the Code Commission Board and TM couldn't do anything without their direction.

TM also told Tim that they are telling everyone that they do not have any regulatory authority here and that this project and the tanks are approved by DNR.



*Roth RMT-1060 at Lake Tishomingo*