

The Daytona 500 of Wastewater Treatment: Case studies of weekly rental homes on the coast of North Carolina.  
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Successful and sustainable wastewater treatment is of vital importance to our coasts. From 1980 to 2003, the coastal population of the U.S. increased by 33 million people. Currently, more than 50 percent of the U.S. populations live in coastal areas. Contrast this with the onsite wastewater reality of high water tables, marine clays, and small lots and you have a recipe for disaster. Six textile treatment systems have been monitored heavily during rental season on the coast of North Carolina. Soil analysis, site layouts, sampling protocol and results, installation and operations experiences will be discussed. The coast of North Carolina presents unusual challenges to onsite systems. The most important of which is use. Many homes are rented on a weekly basis. Usually the homes are multi-family and have upwards of 13 bedrooms. Flows per bedroom are typically 100-150 GPD during the summer and zero during the winter.

Data from six sites ranging in size from a four BR rental home to a 3600 GPD condominium complex will be presented. Results will be discussed.