

Septic System Maintenance

Maintaining your septic system is extremely important for maximizing the life of the system and for safeguarding you and your family from disease-causing organisms. Properly working systems are essential for protecting surface, ground and drinking water supplies.

1. Pump out the septic tank or aerator every 3–5 years or when the sludge level is at 1/3 of the capacity.
2. The aerator motor should run continuously.
3. Switch leach fields every six months if there is a “D” box and periodically clean the filter in the septic tank.
4. Do not use your septic system as a trash can. Never flush hazardous chemicals, medications, garbage, or tank additives.
5. Limit garbage disposal usage.
6. Practice water conservation and spread out laundry loads over the week. Use low-flow fixtures and repair leaky faucets and running toilets immediately. Do not plumb the water softener backwash into the system.
7. Never drive over, dig in, or plant on top of the septic system.
8. Plan ahead for future septic repairs and keep an area on your property vacant for replacement of the system if needed.
9. Contact the Health Department if you experience any problems with your system

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