



Site Services

Septic Information for Homeowners

How a septic system works.

1. **The septic tank:** After a toilet is flushed or shower is taken the water and sewage flows through the pipe in the house to the septic tank. In the septic tank the sewage is processed by either aerobic or anaerobic bacterial. The sludge settles to the bottom of the tank, solids float on the top and the liquid which is called effluent flows out the tank to field or some type of dispersal system
2. **The types of fields and functions:** After the tank the effluent flow to either a leach field, sand filter, mound system or low-pressure dosing system. No matter what type of field or system it all works pretty much the same. The effluent flows from the tank and gets distributed through field line or sand filter to get processed and cleaned then absorbed back into the soils to be processed further or flows to a chlorine chamber to be disinfected

Common issues with Septics

- Soggy or wet spot in the yard. This means the field is undersized, clogged, or overloaded. Best and easiest solution to try is to use water efficiently, eliminate any irrigation over the septic field. Pumping a tank will give the field time to catch up. Check all faucets and toilets to make sure nothing is running or leaking. A simple little drip can overload a system. Eliminate the water softener from draining into the septic
- High water level in the tank. Common causes are broken pipe outside the tank, distribution box is collapsed. Field is overloaded. Call for an inspection to find out the problem
- Toilet and sinks do not drain in the whole house. Common causes are tree root intrusion in line, foreign object lodged in the pipe, broken pipe, or tank is full and needs cleaning. Rod out the main line and camera inspection is the best option to determine problem. Pumping of tank is also an option to try
- Fail test results from health department on a mechanical system. Common issues are a bad sand filter, no chlorine tablets in chlorine contact chamber, not enough chlorine contact time. Please call for an inspection to determine problem.

Things not to put down the septic system

- Baby wipes (even is they say flushable)
- Feminine products of any kind
- Grease
- Excessive amount of Bleach
- Cue Tips

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How often to get the tank pump and septic inspected?

In a house of 3-4 people it should be about every 3 to 4 years. The more the people in the house the more often it should be done.

