

Do's & Don'ts

Please refer to
this list to help keep system
performing properly

This information will help you take care of your septic system, which will benefit the life of your system, your health, finances, and the environment.

Know What
to Do

OUTSIDE DO'S & DON'TS YARD SAFETY

Regular Maintenance should be performed by a qualified service company for ensuring the long life of your system.

BLOWER OPERATION

Do not turn off blower. Notify your maintenance provider if you detect problems with the blower or if you are leaving the property for an extended period (>3 weeks).



ALARM

If alarm sounds, press the "RESET" button on the front of the panel. Contact your service provider (info should be on the control panel and/or the blower) or contact Bio-Microbics (913-422-0707) as soon as possible



DOWN SPOUTS

Direct water from downspouts or anywhere water is collected away from the septic tank or drainfield. Additional water from these sources may prevent any portion of your system from working properly.



TRAFFIC / LANDSCAPING

Do not drive over any portion of your system (tank, piping, drain field) except for normal yard traffic, i.e. lawn mowers, etc. Tanks (H-20) can be made for under roadways, driveways. If possible, deter traffic by using a fence or create a landscaped area with shallow root plants (ornamentals, bushes, decorative grasses, and/or flowers). Don't plant trees near any portion of your system.



STRUCTURES

Do not build patios, carports, or other structures over any part of your septic system; as this may cause damage.



VENTS / ODORS / INTAKES

Keep vent and blower housing clear of debris, such as leaves and snow. Contact your service provider if you detect septic odors, as this may indicate a problem with the system.

BIO-SOLIDS (SLUDGE) REMOVAL

To determine when pump out is required, a maintenance provider should measure the bio-solids level(s) in the tank(s) on a regular basis. **Please see the service manual for specific procedures.**

DON'T PUT THESE ITEMS DOWN THE DRAIN

FOOD WASTES

ANIMAL BONES / SKIN
COFFEE GROUNDS / CORN COBS
EGG SHELLS
FRUIT PEELS / MELON RINDS
HOME BREWERY WASTE

PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

BANDAGES / CONDOMS
DISPOSABLE DIAPERS
SANITARY NAPKINS / WET WIPES

CHEMICALS/TOXINS

AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS
CAUSTIC CLEANERS
HARSH DETERGENTS
FLOOR STRIPPER
HERBICIDES / PESTICIDES
MEDICATIONS / DRUGS
PAINTS - OIL-BASED
QUATERNARY AMMONIA
SOLVENTS / THINNERS

OTHER PRODUCTS

CAT LITTER
CIGARETTE BUTTS
CLOTH TOWELS / RAGS
FILM DEVELOPING WASTE
METAL / PLASTIC OBJECTS
MODELING CLAY
PAPER TOWELS / SCRAPS
PLASTIC BAGS
RV WASTE
STRING / YARN / NYLON
STICKS / YARD WASTE

RECORD KEEPING



Keep copies of all system drawings/plans of the site/installed equipment/service records with all other home appliance documents. **Record all applicable information.**

LAUNDRY/WATER USAGE



Spread wash loads throughout the week. Instead of liquid fabric softener, dryer sheets should be used. Use low-suds, biodegradable and low phosphate detergents, like **Mighty Mike® from Scienco/FAST** (www.sciencofast.com).

LEAKY FIXTURES



Large quantities of water are added to your wastewater system when you have leaking fixtures. Timely detection and repair can help to maximize the life of your system, especially the drain field.

WATER SOFTENERS



The FAST® process may tolerate discharge from properly operating softeners that backwash as needed based on water usage (DIR) vs. timer operated systems, if allowed by your local regulatory authority. However, these discharges can possibly damage other parts of the septic system.

FOOD WASTES



Garbage disposal waste is acceptable - if allowed by your local regulatory authority. However, it may lead to more frequent removal of solids from your septic tank. For large quantities of food, please dispose of in the garbage.

FATS, OILS & GREASE



Be aware too much grease (i.e. animal fats, vegetable oils, lard, etc) down the drain may overload or prevent the bacteria from fully breaking down the waste.

DISINFECTANTS / CLEANERS



Use citric acid, chlorine, and/or other biodegradable cleaners according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Products containing quaternary ammonia or pine oil-based cleaners should not be used. Use drain cleaners as a last resort to unclog pipes.

DRAINS FROM GARAGE AND WORKROOMS



Should be diverted away from your septic system. Items like petroleum-based oils, gas, and saw dust should never enter the system.

MEDICINES



DO NOT FLUSH THEM DOWN ANY DRAIN. All antibiotic medicines are harmful to treatment quality. Unused medications should be returned to the pharmacy, doctor, or thrown away in the trash.

NOTE: As the human body absorbs ≤20% of these medications, please notify your service provider of medicines in the house. This could reduce troubleshooting efforts and possibly your maintenance bill.

SEPTIC TANK ADDITIVES / ENZYMES



The wastewater in the system contains all the required bacteria for proper operation. Additives are unnecessary; and may do more harm than good.

PAPER PRODUCTS



Use single- or double-ply, non-quilted, white toilet paper products. Some color dyes in the paper cannot be eaten by natural bacteria. Non-bleached paper (brown in color) takes longer to break down and can therefore increase your biosolids pump out frequency. Avoid flushing paper towels, napkins, wipes, or other thicker paper material.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING; FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN SEVERE SICKNESS OR DEATH:



- Always secure all access covers of the tank, control panel and blower, so that people cannot enter without the use of proper tools.
- Gases emanating from septic tanks can explode if ignited or deadly if inhaled. **DO NOT** use flame or spark near a septic tank access points.
- Only qualified service persons should open any access port on a septic system.
- Infectious organisms exist in a septic tank. Persons coming in contact with wastewater must immediately wash and disinfect all exposed areas and contact their personal physicians.



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