

Take care of your septic system for your health, finances, and the environment.

# Do's & Don'ts



## 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

Anywhere water is collected, i.e. roof downspouts, pavement runoff, or sump pump/house footing drains, the water should be diverted away from the septic tank or drainfield.

### 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 (within 30').

### 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.

### BIOSOLIDS (SLUDGE) REMOVAL

To determine when pump out is required, a maintenance provider should measure the biosolids 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 / EGG SHELLS  
COFFEE GROUNDS / CORN COBS  
MELON RINDS / FRUIT PEELS  
SKIN / 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

## Refer to this list to help keep your system performing properly.

### 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 a low-sud, biodegradable detergent, like the **Mighty Mike® Laundry Detergent** from **Scienco/FAST** ([www.sciencofast.com](http://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.

### 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.

### FLOOR 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.

### 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

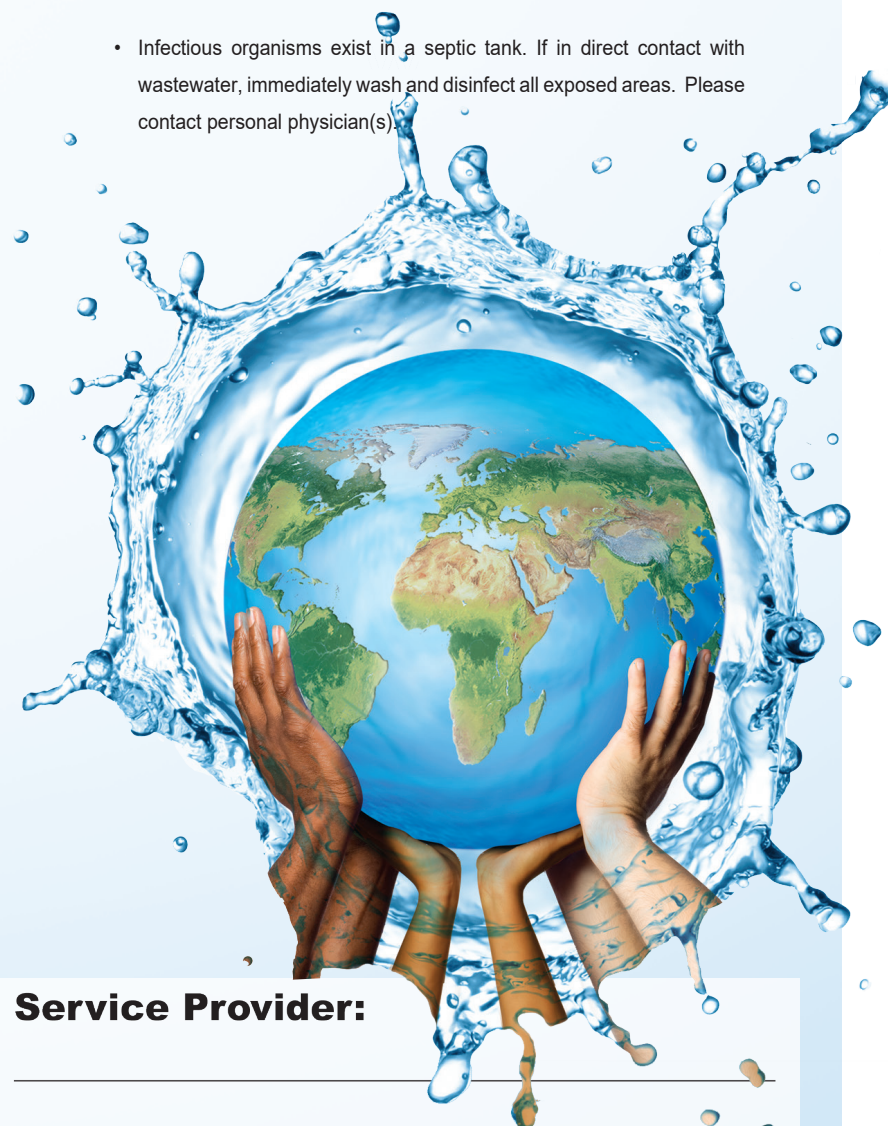


Use single- or double-ply, non-quilted, white toilet paper products. Some color dyes in the paper cannot be eaten by natural bacteria. Non-bleached paper (brown in color) takes longer to break down and can therefore increase your biosolids pump out frequency. Avoid flushing paper towels, napkins, wipes,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

### PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:



- Only qualified service persons should open any access port on a septic system. Always secure all access covers of the tank, control panel and blower to ensure no one can enter without the use of proper tools.
- DO NOT use flame or spark near a septic tank access point(s). Gases emanating from septic tanks can explode if ignited; or deadly if inhaled.
- Infectious organisms exist in a septic tank. If in direct contact with wastewater, immediately wash and disinfect all exposed areas. Please contact personal physician(s).



Service Provider:

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