



Warren County Sanitarian

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EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR SEWAGE SYSTEM

- 1) PUMP YOUR TANK:** Sewage tanks should be pumped every two to three years; this prevents solid material from entering the lateral lines and blocking fluid movement. NOTE: Class I tanks should be pumped according to manufacturer's recommendations.

- 2) CHECK AND CLEAN YOUR TANK OUTLET FILTER:** Your sewage tank may be fitted with an outlet filter. This filter should be checked at least every three months, and cleaned when needed.

- 3) DO NOT PUT ANYTHING INTO YOUR TOILET EXCEPT HUMAN WASTE AND TOILET PAPER:** Anything other than human waste and toilet paper may increase the need to pump the sewage tank and may travel to the lateral lines and cause a blockage.

- 4) DO NOT USE A FOOD GRINDER (GARBAGE DISPOSAL):** Eggshells, grease and many other materials put through a garbage grinder may increase the need to pump sewage tank and may travel through the lateral lines and cause a blockage.

- 5) USE ONLY LIQUID OR LOW PHOSPHATE DETERGENTS:** Solid high-phosphate detergents liquefy when agitated but may turn back into solids and cause a blockage. Fabric softener sheets not liquid recommended.

- 6) INVEST IN A FRONT LOADING/WATER SAVING LAUNDRY MACHINE:** The old top loading machines use about 50 gallons per load. The front loading/water saving machines use 15-20 gallons per load.

- 7) DO NOT DRIVE OVER YOUR LATERAL LINES:** Compaction of the soils may greatly reduce their absorbent qualities.

- 8) DO NOT PASTURE ANIMALS ON YOUR LATERAL LINES:** Compaction of the soils may greatly reduce their absorbent qualities.

- 9) DO NOT RUN ROOF DRAINS, TILE DRAINS OR ANY EXCESS WATER OVER LATERAL LINES:** Excess water will saturate the soils and may cause the sewage effluent to come to the surface.

- 10) LIMIT THE USE OF ALL CHEMICAL TOILET CLEANERS:** Most chemical cleaners contain chlorine, which may kill microorganisms that break down sewage effluent.

- 11) DISCHARGE WATER SOFTNER WASTE EFFLUENT SEPARATE FROM SEWAGE SYSTEM:** Sodium products are commonly used to seal leaking ponds; not preferred for soil absorption of wastewater.