

## Maintenance

Call a local ROWP certified maintenance providing company, if it is outside your comfort zone, But you can do this yourself.

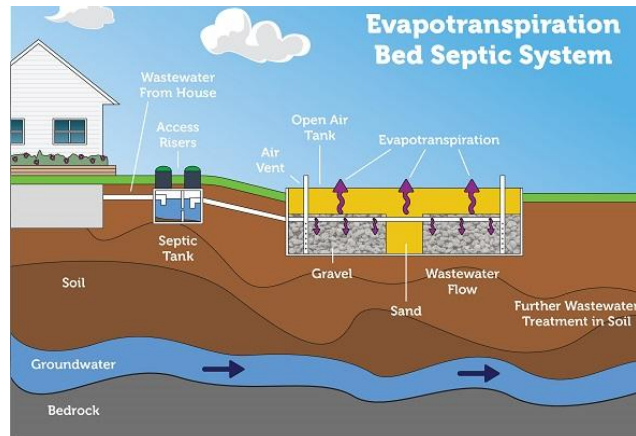
Your filter should be cleaned once a year, here is our how too!

1. You will need the following items: a garden hose, disposable gloves, and tools to remove the lids.
  2. Remove both lids of chambers 1 & 2
  3. Reach into chamber 2, pull the T handle on the filter and remove the filter.
  4. Take filter from chamber 2 & hose off filter into chamber 1.
  5. Replace filter back into holder once rinsed and place both lids back in place.
- Call a local company for pumping out tanks every 4-5 years or when the scum/crust layer gets to be greater than 6-8 inches. This you can't do yourself.

Locate any of the pressurized lines and flush the lines every couple years

Proper maintenance:

- Will help prolong the life of the wastewater system.
- Keep contamination out of the water table.
- Direct water flowing from drains, downspouts, driveways, sump pumps away from your field as it must remain unsaturated to maintain a healthy bacteria to break down the waste.



### What is an ROWP?

Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner.  
**A person who is trained and Qualified with the ASTTBC to work with wastewater.**

### Why should you hire an ROWP?

To know it is certified and insured, this protects future sale of the home, home insurance and keeps companies accountable for their work quality.

**A ROWP is also responsible to check with local bylaws, riparian areas and development permits and local Government.**

### Who can inspect my system?

You guessed it! A ROWP professional.

### When to call a ROWP?

When you are seeing the below signs of a faulty system or you require a new system/services.

### Signs of faulty system

- Soggy or wet patches on drain field
- Slow drains and toilets
- Gurgling sounds in the plumbing lines
- Rancid smells around the property
- Patches of dense green grass over the field.

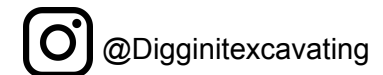


## Septic Information



(250) 537-6027

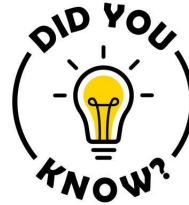
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## Do's Dont's

- Do not put anything on top of your septic system (Trampolines, Chickens, Livestock, Stacks of wood, etc) your septic needs room to breathe, weight and livestock limit the evaporation that the system requires to be healthy.
- Do remember to maintain your system, filter, D box, keep grass short on septic field (this promotes proper evaporation)
- Don't Flush - Diapers, wipes, paper towels feminine hygiene products, cotton swabs, floss, medications, cigarette butts, tomato base sauces, or Dairy Products. (These items are hazardous to the plumbing and the bacteria that maintain a healthy tank, basically if you don't eat it don't flush it, except toilet paper of course)
- Do consider greener cleaning products to protect the beneficial bacteria and our groundwater.
- Don't drive over/park on your system unless you absolutely must and nothing over 1000 lbs.
- Don't add any additives to your system, the bacteria from human intestines provide the best bacteria for digesting wastewater \*see did you know for exceptions.
- Do get your septic inspected before listing your home.



### Does it matter if you are vegetarian or vegan?

Yes! Those 2 diets don't provide the correct bacteria to create a healthy septic system, it is suggested to throw hamburger or special additives into the tank to help maintain a healthy balance of bacteria, the additives is also needed if it is a short term use home,

### I can't see any leakage, does that mean it is working correctly ?

This is incorrect, effluent could be seeping into ditches/water tables and this is where proper maintenance is necessary.

### Signs of a healthy septic system

- Mild smell in the tank.
- Even distribution. (no soggy spots)
- No back up.
- No foul odor around the house.

### What is a Perc Test?

A test that measures how fast water drains into a standard-sized hole in the ground.

### Thinking of some major landscaping projects?

You will want to consult a ROWP installer to confirm the scope of work won't be affecting the slope and elevations near your septic system as it can drastically affect its performance and longevity.

### How close can my well be to my system?

It will need to be a minimum of 30 M setback.



### When is it considered a new system rather than a repair?

A repair is when less than 50% needs work, however, the field is considered 75% of the system & tank is 25%

### Would the trees on my property have an effect on my system?

Yes! Maple, cedar, bamboo, and poplars are the most destructive, due to their roots and how much water they need to survive.

### What information is needed to decide how big a system will be?

Your installer will need to know how many bedrooms, total square footage, occupancy, even the types of soil can affect the size of a septic system.

### Does the zoning of the land make a difference to what type of system you would need?

Yes! Certain zones have development permits that need to be designed by an Professional.

### What is a Biomat?

A biomaterial layer that exists in the soil under and around your septic system drain field. Depending on the thickness of the biomat it can be both beneficial or detrimental to the filtration into the septic field.

### How do antibacterial cleaners going down your drains affect the system?

While these may be good at helping us limit the chances of a cold or virus, they are very harmful to the health of your septic system, they kill not only the bad bacteria but the good as well. That affect can cause a thick biomat that doesn't allow the system to filter back into the groundwater