

# Maintaining Your Septic Tank

Although septic tanks are fairly maintenance-free, there are a few things you can do to ensure that your system functions properly.

## 1. Use septic-friendly chemicals only

It is important that only septic-friendly chemicals are used to clean all toilets feeding into the tank, as septic tanks are not chemical-resistant. Chemicals can also kill the bacteria that help break down the solids. Septic-friendly chemicals can be identified by viewing the labels on the back of products. Note: one teaspoon of dishwashing liquid can result in system failure for up to seven days.

## 2. Use septic-safe toilet paper

## 3. Don't flush non-biodegradables down the toilet

Avoid flushing any non-biodegradable objects down the toilet, as this can clog the tank and drain field.

## 4. Ensure lid remains in place

When installing the tank, the lid is filled with concrete prior to use to ensure it stays closed off. It is, however, important to double-check every now and then to make sure that nothing falls into the tank and no effluent leaks out of the tank (effluent is not safe and carries disease-causing germs).

## 5. Keep a watchful eye

If you notice any of the following warning signs, contact a professional septic company/preferred installer immediately for assistance:

- Surfacing sewerage or wet spots
- Gurgling sounds in the plumbing system
- Slow draining fixtures