



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Butler County
General Health District**

Household Sewage Treatment System: Maintenance Recommendations and Tips

Dos and Don'ts of your HSTS

Do:

- Have your system pumped, in general, every three to five years
- Set aside an area for replacement in case your existing system should fail. Note: Newer systems have a replacement area outlined
- Replace broken baffles
- Eliminate or limit use of garbage disposal
- Stagger use of washing machines, dishwashers, showers and bath throughout the day/week
- Consider installing low-flow devices such as an aerator in your faucets and water efficient toilets, dishwashers and washing machines
- Direct down spouts and clear water sump pumps away from the septic tank and leach field

Don't:

- Don't pour grease or cooking oil down the toilet or sink
- Don't rinse coffee grounds into sink
- Don't pour/flush household chemicals
- Don't flush non-biodegradable products or chemicals such as feminine hygiene products, condoms, dental floss, diapers, cigarette butts, cat litter, paper towels, pharmaceuticals
- Don't park or drive on your leach field
- Don't plant trees or shrubs on or near your leach field
- Don't site pools or structures on your leach field
- Don't modify, cover or move any system components
- Don't dispose of unwanted medications in the toilet or sink

Advanced Treatment Units

Do:

- Use soaps and detergents that are low-suds, biodegradable, and low or phosphate free
- Fix leaky fixtures
- Substitute liquid fabric softener with dryer sheets
- Use Calcium Hypochlorite (Chlorine) approved for Wastewater

Don't:

- Don't turn off air supply device, alarms, or electrical components of the system
- Don't use pool chlorine

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