



## Septic System Tips

Remember that anything disposed of in your sinks, toilets, or laundry drains will affect your septic system and how well it processes wastewater.

### Kitchen Sink:

- Rinse dishes only after scraping food into the trash.
- Do not dispose of grease or fats in your drain line.

### Bathroom/Toilets:

- Do not flush anything other than toilet paper.
- Use low flow plumbing fixtures.
- Fix any leaks as soon as possible.

### Laundry Room:

- Do not use bleach.
- Do not use powdered detergents.
- Limit the number of loads of laundry you do per day.
- Avoid using fabric softener.
- Measure the correct amount of detergent.

## Maintenance

- Inspect the system annually to ensure functionality and that no additional maintenance is needed.
- The life expectancy of a septic system is 20 to 30 years and should be pumped out every 3 to 5 years. After the tank is pumped, there is no need to "reseed" or jump start the good bacteria growth with additives.

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## Well Tips

- Do not plant invasive landscaping near the well, as this can damage the plumbing.
- Do not mix chemicals or potential contaminants near your well.
- Do not use yard treatments such as “Round Up” as these can contaminate your groundwater.
- Do not pile leaves, debris, or any other materials around the well.
- It is recommended to cover your well system to protect and extend the life of the well.

## Maintenance

There is no standardized water well maintenance schedule. You should visually inspect your system regularly to check for possible maintenance problems.

Check the casing (pipe that extends vertically out of the well), well cap, and electrical conduit for any visual defects or loose fittings.

### **Always consult a well system professional in any of the following cases:**

- Any time the well is opened.
- Water taste, odor, or appearance problems.
- Loss of pressure or capacity.
- Any defects that were noted at the visual inspection.

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