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STANDARD SEPTIC TANK SYSTEM

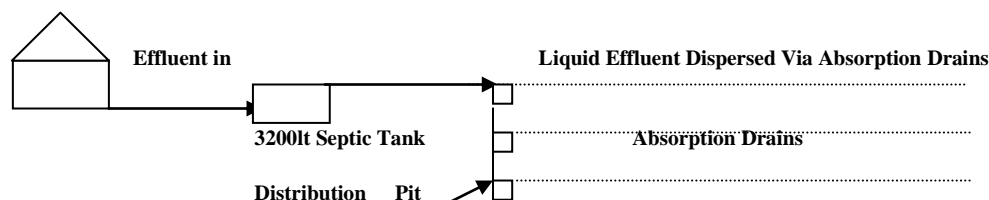
It is the owner's responsibility to maintain any on-site wastewater system.

All effluent from the building goes to a **3200lt Concrete Septic Tank**. The tank has a baffle in the middle which keeps the solid waste on one side and allows the liquid to go to the other side. Anaerobic bacterial decomposition helps reduce the solids within the tank, whilst the liquid exits from the other end of the tank to the first **Distribution Pit** (square concrete pit). From this pit it flows into the first line of **Absorption Drain**. It then soaks from this drain into the soil and evaporates. Once this drain is full of liquid, the liquid then overflows out of the first **Distribution Pit** into the second **Distribution Pit** and **Absorption Drain** and so on.

As there are micro-organisms in the septic tank system, **NO** harsh chemicals or bleaches should be used, as these can kill the micro-organisms and cause the septic system to fail.

It is also recommended that your tank and pump chamber should be de-sludged (pumped out) every three years to help it maintain optimum performance. Failure to do so could cause the build up of solids within the tank and the carry over of these solids into the absorption drains. Over a prolonged period of time the drains could then become clogged and no longer function correctly.

If an odour occurs during initial use of the system or following de-sludging, a cup of garden lime can be flushed down the toilet each day until the odour disappears.



Septic Tank System – Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Restrict the use of germicides (strong detergents, disinfectants, toilet cleaners, bleaches, etc.) they will kill the bacteria which makes the septic work.
- Use soapy water or bio-degradable detergents to clean toilets and other fixtures
- Use only detergents that have low alkaline salts and chlorine levels
- Use a sink strainer to restrict food scraps entering the septic system.
- Fill tank with water to reduce odours during initial use and after de-sludging of tank
- Inspect the system at least annually
- De-sludge tank at least once every three years
- Do plant appropriate vegetation near septic system

Don'ts

- Do not use harsh chemicals or bleaches, they will kill the bacteria which makes the septic work
- Do not flush sanitary napkins, disposable nappies or 'flushable' moist wipes down the system, as they will clog household sewer pipes and septic drains.
- Do not dispose of large amounts of oils or fats into the system
- Do not concrete or pave over septic tank or absorption area
- Do not cover absorption drains with extra soil
- Do not plant inappropriate vegetation near septic system
- Do not drive vehicles over absorption drains