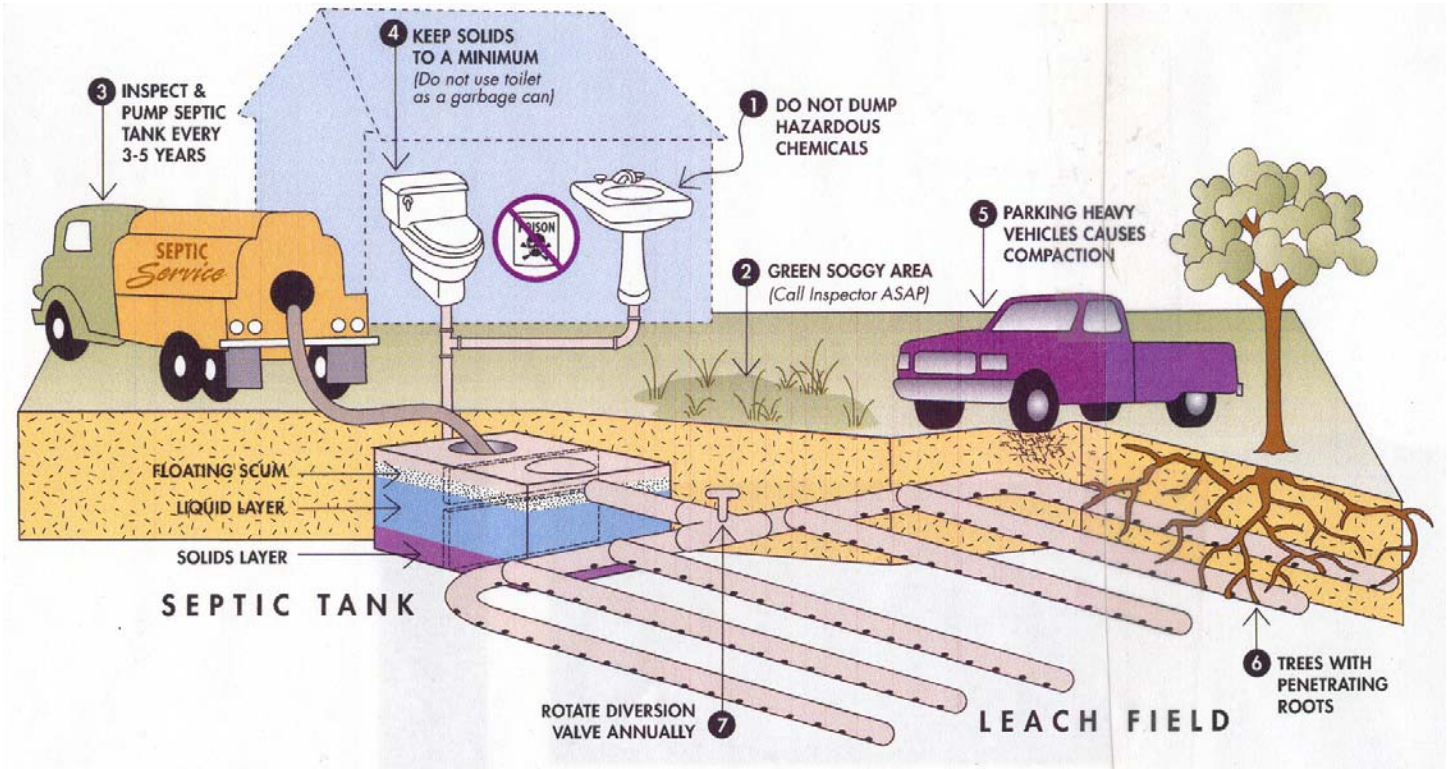


SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE



- 1) Do not dump hazardous chemicals down the drain. If your drain is plugged try using boiling water or a drain snake instead of chemical drain cleaners. Use less toxic cleaning supplies whenever possible. Take all hazardous chemicals to a hazardous waste drop-off for disposal.
- 2) If you notice a sewage smell, a continuously wet area in your yard, lush vegetation around the septic tank or leach field, or liquid waste backing up through your drains, then something is not working properly. Call a licensed septic tank inspector immediately.
- 3) Have your septic tank inspected and pumped every three to five years (more often if you have a garbage disposal). If the solid waste in the tank builds up too high, it can flow into the leach lines, plug them and cause your system to fail.
- 4) Keep the solids in your system to a minimum. Do not use your toilet as a garbage can. Food waste, feminine hygiene products and other household solids are better placed in the garbage.
- 5) Do not park or drive heavy equipment over your leach lines. This may compact the soil around the lines and prevent adequate percolation of the liquid waste, causing your system to fail.
- 6) Do not plant trees near your leach line. Tree roots often seek out the moist environment inside your leach lines and plug them, causing your system to fail.
- 7) If you have a dual leach field system, change the diversion valve setting once a year.
- 8) Do not use septic tank additives, yeast, bacteria, enzymes, or other products to enhance the system, none of these products have been proven to be beneficial and some can cause permanent damage.