

CARE OF YOUR NEW SEPTIC TANK

Facility owners' responsibilities: a properly designed on-site sewerage facility, properly constructed in a suitable soil can malfunction if the amount of water it is required to dispose of is not controlled. It will be the responsibility of the owner to maintain and operate the facility in a satisfactory manner. The proper performance of an on-site sewerage facility cannot be guaranteed even though all provisions of these Standards have been met. Inspection and licensing of an on-site sewerage facility by the licensing authority shall indicate only that the facility meets minimum requirements and does not relieve the owner of the property from complying with County, State and Federal Regulations. On-site sewerage facilities, although approved as meeting minimum Standards, must be upgraded by the owner, at the owner's expense, if the owner's operation of the nuisance conditions are threatened or occur, or if the facility when used does not comply with government regulations.

An on-site sewerage system should not be treated as if it were a city sewer. Economy in the use of water helps prevent overloading of a sewerage system that could lessen its usefulness. Leaky faucets and faulty commode fill-up mechanisms should be carefully guarded against. Garbage grinders can cause a rapid buildup of sludge or scum resulting in a requirement for more frequent cleaning and possible system failure. The excessive use of garbage grinders and grease discarding should be avoided.

Check commodes for leaks that may not be apparent. Add a few drops of food coloring to the tank. Do not flush. If the color appears in the bowl within a few minutes, the toilet flush mechanism needs adjustment or repair.

Do not use the toilet to dispose of cleaning tissues, cigarette butts or other trash. This disposal practice will waste water and also impose an undesired solids load on the treatment system.

Since it is not practical for the average homeowner to inspect his tank and determine the need for cleaning, a regular schedule of cleaning the tank at two (2) to three (3) year intervals should be established. Commercial cleaners are equipped to readily perform the cleaning operation. Owners of septic tank systems shall engage only persons registered with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to transport the septic tank cleanings.

Signature of Property Owner

Date

Signature of Homeowner

Date