

# DO'S & DON'T'S

## HERE ARE SOME COMMON THINGS THAT SHOULD NEVER GO INTO THE SEPTIC TANKS AND LEACHING FIELDS!

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- Water from gutter or floor drains.
- Non-Biodegradable Products - chemicals and solids (**tampons, cigarette butts, condoms, or other similar items, hair, bandages, rags, strings, coffee grounds or cereals**).
- **Paper towels and handy wipes; no matter what the box or manufacturer, etc. says!**
- Heavy or long-term use of Kaboom, Scrubbing Bubbles, spray toilet cleaner or any other **excessively** strong cleaner that requires no physical labor. This includes tablets that turn the water pretty and blue to sterilize the water, which in turn ends up killing the bacteria that the system needs to work properly. The system does not die immediately but in 5-6 months it will destroy the bacteria colony.
- **Water conditioning backwashes / discharge from water softener, and purifier, sanitizer, or conditioners. It is saltwater in an extreme concentration. Bacteria don't do well in a salty environment.**
- Dehumidifiers and air conditioner discharges.
- Chlorine and chemicals in **excess**
- Hot tubs and Jacuzzi discharges.
- **Water from excessive loads of laundry.** Loads should be spaced out (one day of doing all laundry is a big time No-No!).
- Water from leaking fixtures including "sneaky-leaky" toilets.
- **Disposable baby wipes / diapers / hand and facial wipes - NO MATTER WHAT MANUFACTURER SAYS, DO NOT FLUSH; DISPOSE OF THEM IN A GARBAGE CAN!**
- **Excessive toilet paper.** Try to use less of it, or just throw in your garbage can. Although most toilet paper is bio-degradable, it makes the system work harder in order to break it down.
- Latex, plastic or metallic objects - **(If you haven't, wouldn't or couldn't eat it - Don't throw it in septic tank system!)**
- **Discharge from garbage disposals.**

**Regular use of a garbage disposal will increase need for pumping tanks by 60 percent. Food is 10 times harder for the BUGS to breakdown than human**

**waste. A home of two people that uses the disposal regularly will probably need a cleanout in half the time that of a home which does not use the disposal.**