

A-NORTON SEPTIC CONTRACTING

Residential * Commercial * Industrial

Septic Tank Pump-Out

Septic tanks require pump-outs (cleaning) when the solids that accumulate in the tank begin to reach the tank's storage capacity. The tank should be pumped when total solid accumulation is between 30% and 50% of the total capacity. Here is some information about what occurs in the pumping/cleaning process.

What will the pumper do?

Before Pumping: We will note liquid level of the tank in relation to the tank's outlet pipe. A liquid level below the outlet pipe usually indicates a tank leak. A liquid level above the outlet pipe can indicate a problem with the pipe to the drainfield or the drainfield itself.

During Pumping: Pump the tank from the lid/manhole. Pumping from the inspection ports may damage tees & baffles. However, if pumping must occur from inspection ports, we will be sure to pump from both ports in order to pump all areas of the tank.

We will watch for backflow from the tank's outlet pipe. Significant backflow indicates a drainfield system backup. A small amount of backflow can indicate a sag in the pipe to the drainfield. Backflow from the inlet pipe may indicate a leaking or broken toilet.

We will pump the tank thoroughly. Using a septage spoon and backflush to loosen the sludge in the corners of the tank. Some tanks require further backwashing to loosen solids that have accumulated due to lack of proper maintenance. We do NOT "seed" the tank by leaving septage in it. We do NOT powerwash or scrub the tank's walls. This is not recommended.

After pumping: Check the empty tank and note any signs of structural damage such as cracks, leaks, broken or missing baffles (inlet and/or outlet) Replace lid of tank. File report with the town (if required)

How can I reduce the number of pump-outs needed?

We recommend cleaning and maintenance every 2-3 years depending on the system & usage.

By following our "Septic 101" on care & maintenance you can have a healthy, long lasting septic system.

But just remember: The US Government Department of Health, Education and Public Welfare Service says: "A Septic tank system will serve a home satisfactorily only if it is properly designed, installed and adequately maintained. Even a good system which does not have proper care and attention may become a nuisance and burdensome expense".

