

## Do you have a Septic System?



A typical septic system has four main components: a pipe from the home, a septic tank, a drainfield, and the soil. The tank holds wastewater long enough to allow solids to settle out. The remaining liquid exits the tank into the drainfield. Microbes in the soil will digest or remove most contaminants from the wastewater before it eventually reaches groundwater.

If properly maintained, your septic system can provide long-term, effective treatment of household wastewater. If your septic system isn't maintained, you might need to replace it, costing you thousands of dollars.

To prevent septic system failures, hire a professional to pump out your septic system **every three to five years**. Local professionals and licensed contractors can be found in the Yellow Pages under the heading "Septic Tank & Systems-Cleaning."

