

# The following is a "To Do" List of tips to keep your system in good condition.

# **Conserve Water:**

- The less water that you use will result in a reduction of sewage that your septic system must process. Over usage of water may cause systems to fail.
- Repair leaky faucets and faulty toilet mechanisms. (Adding a few drops of food coloring to the tank to check toilets. If the color appears in the bowl within a few minutes the ball-cock valve needs to be adjusted or the flapper at the bottom of the tank needs to be replaced.)
- Replace plumbing fixtures with low-flow faucets and showerheads.
- Prevent a/c and other condensation drain lines from entering your septic tank..
- Do not leave water running while brushing teeth, washing dishes, cleaning vegetables etc.
- Space your laundry washing throughout the week, (if several loads are done all in one day, a considerable amount of water is discharged in your septic system).

# Maintenance Tips:

- Add topsoil to low areas to prevent saturation over tanks and septic areas, but do not cover your tank lids.
- Keep roof drains or other water drainage away from areas surrounding your septic tank and drainfield /disposal areas.
- Establish a regular cleaning and pumping schedule of your septic tank. (Suggested every 3 to 4 years or when recommended by your service provider). Hire only State licensed companies to pump and service your septic tanks.
- When the septic tank is pumped, always verify the solids in the tanks are removed and the tank ports are resealed to prevent rainwater from entering system.
- Do not drive, park over or build on any part of your septic system.
- Use only licensed septic installers to conduct any repairs or modifications of your septic system.

#### **Protect your Health:**

- Monitor and maintain chlorine in your disinfection unit at all times and never use swimming pool chlorine
- Never build a food crop garden in contact with your septic system.
- Do not tamper with or readjust your systems components. Use only licensed septic installers to conduct any repairs or modifications of your septic system.
- If you have private water well, have your water tested for bacteria at least once a year.

# Chlorine Maintenance (when required):

- As the property or homeowner, it is the your responsibility to maintain chorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l. If you are unsure, ask your installer or service provider to demonstrate how to check and refill your chlorinator.
- Check chlorine tubes at least twice a month.
- Use only CALCIUM HYPOCHLORITE tablets and NEVER use swimming pool chlorine.