

Do's and Don'ts for Your Septic System



Do's

- ✓ Regularly inspect your system Or hire a professional to do so, and have your tank pumped as needed (recommended schedule is 3-5 years).



- ✓ Divert water away from the drain field.



- ✓ Test well water regularly.

- ✓ Plant turfgrass or shallow-rooted ground cover to reduce soil erosion and stabilize the area.



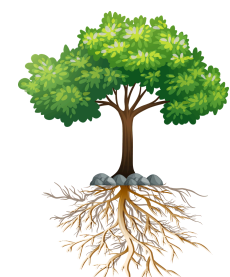
Don'ts

✗ Do Not Flush:

- Dental floss
- Female hygiene products
- Diapers
- Baby wipes - even "flushable" ones!
- Food solids
- Paper towels
- Q-tips
- Cotton balls
- Tissues
- Hazardous chemicals
- Pharmaceuticals



✗ Avoid:



- Heavy mulching or adding extra soil - must be considered if adding annuals.
- Willows and poplar - aggressive water seekers and tree roots can damage pipes.



Safe & Appropriate Planting Choices



Flowers & Ground Cover

- Black eyed Susans
- New England Asters
- Switchgrass
- Wild geraniums



Shrubs & Trees (Shallow-rooted)

- Dogwood
- Eastern Redbud
- Japanese Maple
- Azalea
- Boxwood shrubs
- Holly shrubs