

HOMEOWNER'S MANUAL

For Decentralized Wastewater Collection, Treatment and Disposal

Decentralized Wastewater Collection Treatment System and Disposal



*Total Customer Solutions.
Life-Time Peace of Mind.*



877.669.0786
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Congratulations!

Wastewater Collection Treatment and Disposal

Your home is connected to an Adenus® Wastewater Treatment System, which means that your family is being served by the decentralized industry leader. Our systems are designed and built to last, and we have a developed Quality Control/Quality Assurance (QA/QC) Program in place in the event problems do arise.

Decentralized wastewater systems do an excellent job of decomposing household waste and recycling precious water resources. Our systems frequently outperform municipal sewage treatment plants. The treated effluent is returned harmlessly to the soil, where it receives final polishing and filtration for groundwater recharge. There's no degrading of our nation's rivers and oceans... which is so often the case with municipal sewage.

The utility which owns and operates the system serving your home is responsible

for maintenance and operation of all system components following the outfall line from your home.

If a wastewater problem arises that appears to be beyond the plumbing in your home and the outfall line from your home, you should contact your service provider listed in the important facts sheet on the back of this manual.

Your system will also work better and last longer if you learn what can go into it – and what can not. Little effort is required. Just read and practice the “do's and don'ts” that follow. Every member of your household should be familiar with these. And if you have guests who want to “help out in the kitchen,” be sure to tell them, too. With this preventive maintenance, along with periodic inspections, your onsite wastewater system should function for decades. You'll save water and energy, too!

Please retain this manual with important papers related to your home purchase.

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DO'S AND DON'TS FOR INSIDE THE HOUSE

There are a number of do's and don'ts that will help ensure a long life and minimal maintenance for your system. As a general rule, nothing should be disposed into any wastewater system that hasn't first been ingested, other than toilet tissue, mild detergents, and wash water. Here are some additional guidelines:



DON'T flush dangerous and damaging substances into your wastewater treatment system (Please refer to the "Substitutes for Household Hazardous Waste" on page 4) Specifically, do not flush...

- **Pharmaceuticals**
- **Excessive amounts of bath or body oils**
- **Water softener backwash**
- **Flammable or toxic products**
- **Household cleaners, especially floor wax and rug cleaners**
- **Chlorine bleach, chlorides, and pool or spa products**
- **Pesticides, herbicides, or agricultural chemicals or fertilizers**



DON'T use special additives that are touted to enhance the performance of your tank or system. The natural microorganisms that grow in your system generate their own enzymes that are sufficient for breaking down and digesting nutrients in the wastewater. Additives can cause

maintenance problems inside of the tank that you may be financially responsible for!



DO use your trash can to dispose of substances that cause maintenance problems and/or increase the need for septage pumping. Dispose of the following with your trash:

- **Egg shells, cantaloupe seeds, gum, coffee grounds, tea bags, chewing tobacco, cigarette butts**
- **Paper towels, newspapers, sanitary napkins, diapers, kitty litter, candy wrappers**
- **Cooking grease**
- **Rags, large amounts of hair**



DO collect grease in a container and dispose with your trash. Avoid using garbage disposals excessively. Compost scraps or dispose with your trash, also. Food byproducts accelerate the need for septage pumping and increase maintenance.

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DO'S AND DON'TS FOR INSIDE THE HOUSE



DON'T leave interior faucets on to protect water lines during cold spells. A running faucet can easily increase your wastewater flow by 1,000 to 3,000 gallons per day and hydraulically overload your system. Instead, properly insulate or heat your faucets and plumbing.

DON'T use excessive amounts of water. Using 50 gallons per person per day is typical. If your household does not practice any of the "water conserving tips" below, you may be using too much water.



DO conserve water:

- **Take shorter showers or baths with a partially filled tub. Be cautious about excessive use of larger soaking tubs.**
- **Don't let water run unnecessarily while brushing teeth or washing hands, food, dishes, etc.**
- **Wash dishes and clothes when you have a full load.**
- **When possible, avoid doing several loads in one day.**
- **Use water saving devices on faucets and showerheads.**
- **When replacing old toilets, buy low-flush models.**



DON'T ignore leaky plumbing fixtures, repair them. A leaky toilet can waste up to 2,000 gallons of water in a single day. That's 10-20 times more water than a household's typical daily usage. Leaky plumbing fixtures increase your water bill, waste natural resources, and overload your system.



DO keep lint out of your wastewater treatment system by cleaning the line filters on your washing machine and dryer before every load. Installing a supplemental lint filter on your washing machine would be a good precautionary measure. (This normally takes just a few minutes. Lint and other such materials can make an extreme difference in the frequency and cost of pumping out your primary treatment tank.)

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DO'S AND DON'TS FOR INSIDE THE HOUSE



DO use substitutes for household hazardous waste. Replace the following hazardous products with products that are less environmentally harmful. The hazardous cleaners are listed below, followed by the suggested substitute.

Ammonia-based cleaners: Sprinkle baking soda on a damp sponge. For windows, use a solution of 2 tbs. white vinegar to 1 qt. water. Place the mixture into a spray bottle.

Disinfectants: Use borax: ½ cup in a gallon of water; deodorizes also.

Drain decloggers: Use a plunger or metal snake, or remove and clean trap.

Scouring cleaners and powders: Sprinkle baking soda on a damp sponge or add 4 tbs. baking soda to 1 qt. warm water. You could also use Bon Ami; it's cheaper and won't scratch.

Carpet/upholstery cleaners: Sprinkle dry cornstarch or baking soda on, then vacuum. For tougher stains, blot with white vinegar in soapy water.

Toilet cleaners: Sprinkle on baking soda or Bon Ami, then scrub with a toilet brush.

Furniture/floor polishes: To clean, use oil soap and warm water. Dry with soft cloth. Polish with 1 part lemon juice and 2 parts oil (any kind), or use natural products with lemon oil or beeswax in mineral oil.

Metal cleaners: Brass and copper: scrub with a used half of lemon dipped in salt. Stainless steel: use scouring pad and soapy water. Silver: rub gently with toothpaste and soft wet cloth.

Oven cleaners: Quickly sprinkle salt on drips, then scrub. Use baking soda and scouring pads on older spills.



Laundry detergents: Choose one with zero phosphate content or use soap flakes with 1/3 cup of washing soda. (Before switching, wash clothes in pure washing soda to remove residues.)

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DO'S AND DON'TS FOR OUTSIDE THE HOUSE



DON'T dig without knowing the location of your wastewater treatment system. As much as possible, plan all landscaping and permanent outdoor structures before installation. Easily removable items (such as bird baths and picnic tables) are OK to place on top of your system.

State law requires that utilities be notified before beginning excavation. Call your state One-Call center before any digging is done.



DON'T drive over your tank or any buried components in your system, unless it's been equipped with a special traffic lid. If the system is subject to possible traffic, put up a barricade or a row of shrubs.



DON'T dump RV waste into your wastewater treatment system and tanks. It will increase the frequency of required septage pumping. When dumped directly into the pumping vault, RV waste clogs or fouls equipment, causing undue maintenance and repair costs. (Some RV waste may contain chemicals that are toxic or that may retard the biological digestion occurring within the tank.)

DON'T ever connect rain gutters or storm drains to the sewer or allow surface water to drain into it. Don't discharge hot tub water into your system. The additional water will increase costs, reduce the capacity of the collection and treatment systems, and flood the dispersal system. It can also wash excess solids through the tank.

DO keep the tank access lid secure to the riser at all times. If bolts are lost or damaged, contact your local Adenus® maintenance technician.



DON'T enter your tank. Any work to the tank should be done from the outside. Gases that are often generated in the tank and/or oxygen depletion can be fatal.

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Important! Caution!

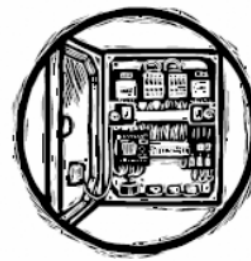
Only a qualified electrician or authorized installer/operator should work on your control panel. Before anyone does any work on either the wiring on the level control floats and pumps in the vault or on the control panel itself, it is imperative to first switch the isolation fuse/breaker and the circuit breaker in the panel to the "Off" positions, then switch "Off" the power to the system at the main breaker!

OUTSIDE THE HOUSE



YOUR UTILITY PROVIDER will provide regular monitoring and maintenance. If your system has a control panel, it is a good idea to write the Utility's phone number on the side of the panel for reference.

AT THE CONTROL PANEL



DO familiarize yourself with the location of your wastewater treatment system and electrical control panel (if it is equipped with one).

DO take immediate action to correct the problem in the event of an alarm condition. Call your utility service provider immediately whenever an alarm comes on; it sounds like a smoke alarm.



DO remember that the audible alarm can be silenced by pushing the lighted button located directly above the "Push to Silence" label on the front of the electrical control panel. With normal use, the tank has a reserve storage capacity good for 24-48 hours.

DON'T turn off the main circuit breaker to the wastewater pumps when going on vacation. If there is any infiltration or inflow into the system, the pumps will need to be on to handle it.



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