

Take care of your septic system for your health, finances, and the environment.

# Do's & Don'ts

## OUTSIDE DO'S & DON'TS YARD SAFETY

Regular Maintenance should be performed by a qualified service company for ensuring the long life of your system.

### BLOWER OPERATION

**DO NOT turn off blower.** DO notify your Maintenance or Service Provider if you detect problems with system or leaving the property for an extended period (>3 weeks).

### ALARM

If alarm sounds: DO press "RESET" button on the front of Panel. DO contact Service or Maintenance Provider (info should be on this document, control panel and/or blower housing), as soon as possible. You can also contact Bio-Microbics at 913-422-0707.

### DOWN SPOUTS

DO divert away anywhere water is collected, i.e. roof downspouts, pavement runoff, or sump pump/house footing drains. The water should be allowed to discharge over buried tank(s) or drain field.

### TRAFFIC / LANDSCAPING

DO NOT drive over any portion of your system (tank, piping, drain field) except for normal yard traffic, i.e. lawn mowers. Buried tanks (H-20) can be made for under roadways, driveways. If possible, deter traffic by using a fence or create a landscaped area with shallow root plants (ornamentals, shrubbery, bushes, decorative grasses, and/or flowers). DO NOT plant trees near any portion of your system (within 30').

### STRUCTURES

DO NOT build patios, carports, or other structures over any part of your septic system; as this may cause damage.

### VENTS / ODORS / INTAKES

DO keep vent and blower housing clear of debris, such as leaves or snow. Contact your service provider if you detect septic odors, as this may indicate a problem with the system.

### BIOSOLIDS (SLUDGE) REMOVAL

DO determine when a pump out of your tank is required; a maintenance provider should measure the biosolids level(s) in the tank(s) on a regular basis. **Please see the service manual for specific procedures.**



## DON'T PUT THESE ITEMS DOWN THE DRAIN

### FOOD WASTES

ANIMAL BONES / EGG SHELLS  
COFFEE GROUNDS / CORN COBS  
MELON RINDS / FRUIT PEELS  
SKIN / HOME BREWERY WASTE

### PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

BANDAGES / CONDOMS  
DISPOSABLE DIAPERS  
SANITARY NAPKINS  
WET WIPES

### CHEMICALS/TOXINS

AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS  
CAUSTIC CLEANERS  
HARSH DETERGENTS  
FLOOR STRIPPER  
HERBICIDES / PESTICIDES  
MEDICATIONS / DRUGS  
PAINTS - OIL-BASED  
QUATERNARY AMMONIA  
SOLVENTS / THINNERS  
FILM DEVELOPING WASTE

### OTHER PRODUCTS

CAT LITTER  
CIGARETTE BUTTS  
CLOTH TOWELS / RAGS  
METAL / PLASTIC OBJECTS  
MODELING CLAY  
PAPER TOWELS / SCRAPS  
PLASTIC BAGS  
RV WASTE  
STRING / YARN / NYLON  
STICKS / YARD WASTE

Refer to this list to help keep system performing properly.

### RECORD KEEPING

 Keep copies of all system drawings/plans of the site/installed equipment/service records with all other home appliance documents. **Record all applicable information.**

### LAUNDRY/WATER USAGE

 Spread wash loads throughout the week. Instead of liquid fabric softener, dryer sheets should be used instead. It is recommended to use a low-sudsing, biodegradable liquid or powder laundry detergent, like **Mighty Mike® Laundry Detergent** from **Scienco/FAST** ([www.sciencofast.com](http://www.sciencofast.com)).

### LEAKY FIXTURES

 Large quantities of water are added to your wastewater system when you have leaking fixtures. Timely detection and repair can help to maximize the life of your system, especially the drain field.

### WATER SOFTENERS

 If allowed by your local regulatory authority, the FAST® process may tolerate discharge from properly operating softeners that backwash (as needed) based on water usage (DIR) vs. timer operated systems. However, please be aware that these discharges can possibly damage other parts of the septic system.

### FOOD WASTES

 Garbage disposal waste is acceptable - if allowed by your local regulatory authority. However, it may lead to more frequent removal of solids from your septic tank. For large quantities of food, please dispose of in the garbage.

### FATS, OILS, & GREASE

 Be aware too much grease (i.e. animal fats, vegetable oils, lard, etc) down the drain may overload or prevent the bacteria from fully breaking down the waste.

### DISINFECTANTS / CLEANERS

 Use citric acid, chlorine, and/or other biodegradable cleaners, like the **Mighty Mike® All-Purpose Cleaner** ([www.sciencofast.com](http://www.sciencofast.com)), according to manufacturer's recommendations. Products containing quaternary ammonia or pine/oil-based cleaners should not be used. Use drain cleaners as a last resort to unclog pipes.

### MEDICINES

 DO NOT FLUSH THEM DOWN ANY DRAIN. All antibiotic medicines are harmful to treatment quality. Unused medications should be returned to the pharmacy, doctor, or thrown away in the trash.

**NOTE:** As the human body absorbs ≤20% of these medications, please notify your service provider of medicines in the house. This could reduce troubleshooting efforts and possibly your maintenance bill.

### FLOOR DRAINS FROM GARAGE & WORKROOMS

 Should be diverted away from your septic system. Items like petroleum-based oils, gas, and saw dust should never enter the system.

### SEPTIC TANK ADDITIVES / ENZYMES

 The wastewater in the system contains all the required bacteria for proper operation. Additives are unnecessary; and may do more harm than good.

### PAPER PRODUCTS

 Use single- or double-ply, non-quilted, white toilet paper products. Some color dyes in the paper cannot be eaten by natural bacteria. Non-bleached paper (brown in color) takes longer to break down and can therefore increase your biosolids pump out frequency. Avoid flushing paper towels, napkins, wipes, or other thicker paper material.

### PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:

-  Only qualified service persons should open any access port on a septic system. Always secure all access covers of the tank, control panel and blower to ensure no one can enter without the use of proper tools.
- DO NOT use flame or spark near a septic tank access point(s). Gases emanating from septic tanks can explode if ignited; or deadly if inhaled.
- Infectious organisms exist in a septic tank. If in direct contact with wastewater, immediately wash and disinfect all exposed areas. Please contact personal physician(s).



Service Provider:

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Insert company logo  
1234 Any Street, City, State • Telephone  
E-mail • Web address

1-800-753-FAST (3278) • [www.biomicrobics.com](http://www.biomicrobics.com)