

On-site Sewerage Facility Maintenance

Make sure that household products you use do not impair the performance of your OSSF. Ask your service agent or Council if you are unsure.

Dos

- ✓ Carry out regular maintenance of OSSF using an approved servicing agent. It is an offence if your OSSF is not maintained regularly by an approved service agent.
- ✓ Use only recommended biodegradable products.
- ✓ Avoid contact with the effluent and irrigation sprays.
- ✓ Call your service agent when you are encountering problems with your system such as alarms and/or smells from the OSSF.
- ✓ Conserve water and avoid overloading the system. Fix leaking taps and running toilets as soon as they are discovered.
- ✓ Use toilet paper that disintegrates easily.
- ✓ Use bicarb soda as a cleaner for toilets, baths and basins.
- ✓ Keep a detailed record about your treatment plant, including model number, service agent, records of service visits, maintenance performed, and parts replaced.
- ✓ Become familiar with how your own system operates and the way it looks sounds and smells when it is working correctly. This way, you may be able to identify problems before they become serious and alert your service agent to anything unusual.
- ✓ Ensure your OSSF tank lids are properly sealed to prevent entry of mosquito and other vermin.

Don'ts

- ✗ Put food scraps, milk or oil down the sink.
- ✗ Dispose of any product containing ammonia, acids, disinfectants or bleaches into the system as it will kill the bacteria which operate the system.
- ✗ Allow roof or surface water to enter the system as it will overload the system.
- ✗ Allow foreign objects such as plastic or rubber products, cloth, rags, sanitary napkins, bones, metal, glass and tea leaves or coffee grounds to enter the system as they may cause blockages.
- ✗ Switch off the system to save power.
- ✗ Cover tanks with earth, concrete, pavers, pine bark, mulch or other material which could interfere with access for maintenance or enter the tank when lids are opened.
- ✗ Allow anyone to park on, or drive over any part of the system.
- ✗ Make or allow unauthorised repairs or alterations to your system without approval from Council.
- ✗ Use garbage grinders unless the on-site sewerage facility is designed to cope with this waste.
- ✗ Put any chemicals such as paints, thinners, pesticides etc. into the sink as these items can destroy the bacteria digestion process in your system, resulting in the discharge of polluted effluent.