



## DON'T PANIC !

WE'LL SAVE YOU FROM YOUR PROBLEMS...

- Drain Cleaning
- Water Jetting
- Camera Inspection
- Pipe Locating
- Maintenance
- Plumbing

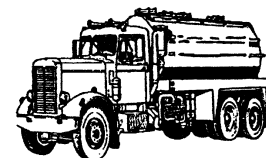
# 860-7668

We look forward to hearing from you!

Rooter-Man (Ottawa)

PO Box 24145 Hazeldean, Kanata ON K2M 2C3

# KNOWING AND MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM



## Carleton Pumping Services

5871 McCordick Rd.  
Richmond, Ontario K0A 2Z0

**(613) 838-5500**

[www.carletonenvironmentalservices.com](http://www.carletonenvironmentalservices.com)

# In Your Book

Some items you will find in this book are:

- **How Your Septic System Works**
- **Signs of Trouble**
- **The Do's and Don'ts**
- **Inspection & Cleaning**
- **Locating Your Tank**
- **Helpful Products**
- **Website Links**
- **Your Septic System Home Record**

# Useful Web Links

[www.carletonenvironmentalservices.com](http://www.carletonenvironmentalservices.com)

[www.rootermanottawa.com](http://www.rootermanottawa.com)

[www.oasisontario.ca](http://www.oasisontario.ca)

[www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca)

*Rideau Valley Conservation Authority*

[www.mah.gov.on.ca](http://www.mah.gov.on.ca)

*Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing*

[www.ottawa.ca/residents/funding/rural\\_clean\\_water\\_en.html](http://www.ottawa.ca/residents/funding/rural_clean_water_en.html)

*City of Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program*

[www.oowa.org](http://www.oowa.org)

*Ontario On-Site Wastewater Association*

[www.orwc.uoguelph.ca](http://www.orwc.uoguelph.ca)

*Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre*

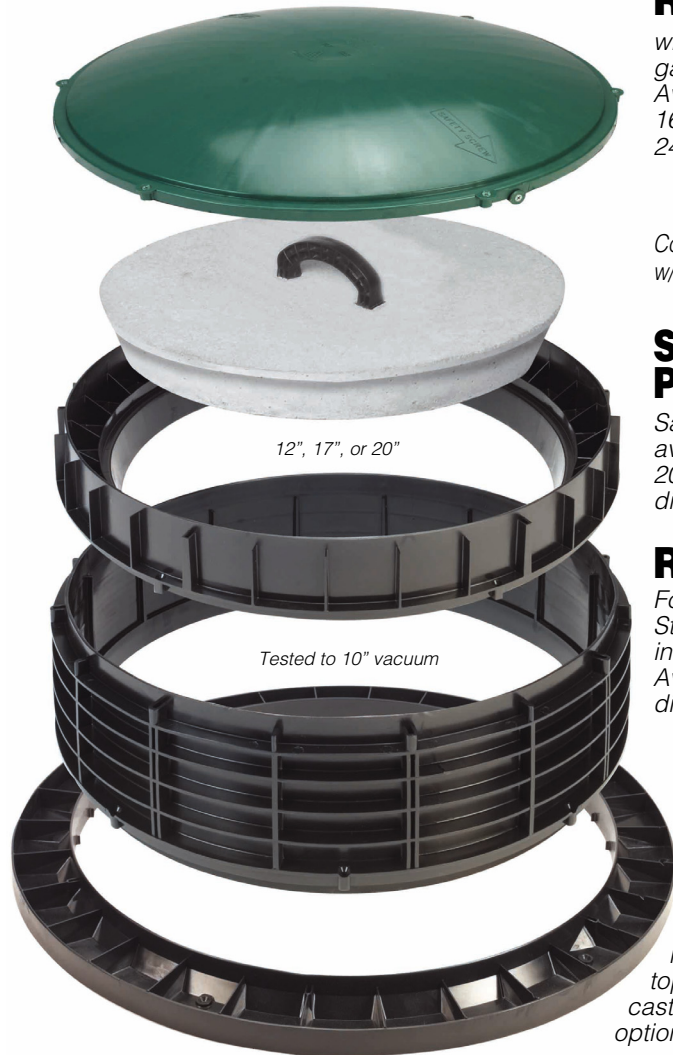
[www.eohu.on.ca](http://www.eohu.on.ca)

*Eastern Ontario Health Unit*

[www.ofa.on.ca](http://www.ofa.on.ca)

*Ontario Federation of Agriculture*

## The Tuf-Tite® Riser System:



### Riser Lid

with Molded-in gasket.  
Available in 12", 16", 20" and 24" diameters.

Concrete Lid w/handle

### Safety Pan™

Safety Pan™ available in 16", 20" and 24" diameters.

### Riser

For septic tanks.  
Stackable in 6" increments.  
Available in 24" diameter.

### Tank Adapter Ring

For mounting riser flush to top of tank when casting-in is not an option.

**24" Diameter**

Pat.Nos.: 5,617,679  
5,852,90; other pats.  
pending.

## Introduction

It is every person's right to have access to such basic needs as shelter, food, and clean water. It is our responsibility to help protect the environment around us, especially with the increasing population rate, so that our water is always clean. Carleton Pumping Services is proud to be serving the Ottawa area for over 45 years. We take great pride in our work and the commitment we have towards our customers. We want to keep this commitment towards quality service for our clients by offering you this home guide - **Knowing and Maintaining Your Septic System**. This booklet will tell you everything you need to know about how your system works, how to make it better perform, and the do's and don'ts of septic tank maintenance. This booklet will provide helpful advice and tips for all property owners to allow for your septic system to run cleanly for years to come. Carleton Pumping Service promises to always be there when you need them.

### KEEP THIS BOOK AS A GUIDE AND REFERENCE TO YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

You can prolong the life of your septic system by conserving water and having your tank routinely cleaned by Carleton Pumping Services. Keep on top of your tank maintenance with the System Maintenance Record we have provided.

Home Owner Installation Kits Available

# How Your Septic System Works

## The Septic System Defined

A septic system is an onsite wastewater treatment system that processes and purifies household waste (effluent). The effluent consists of blackwater (toilet wastes) and greywater (kitchen, sink, bathtub, and laundry wastes). A septic system has two components: a septic tank and a leachfield or drainfield. Primary treatment occurs in the septic tank, where bacteria digest organic materials in the wastewater. The effluent then flows into the leachfield for secondary treatment.

## What Your Tank Does

The most important component of your septic system is the septic tank, which is the underground, waterproof container designed to:

- Receive wastewater from your home.
- Separate solids from liquids.
- Partially digest organic matter.
- Store solids.
- Deliver relatively clear liquid to the absorption field.

In a properly functioning tank, solids and liquids are effectively separated. Solids and partially decomposed sludge settle to the bottom of the tank and accumulate while a scum of lightweight material (including fats and greases) rises to the top. The clear liquid that settles between the scum and the sludge layers, known as the clarified zone, carries over to the absorption field.

# Tuf-Tite® Effluent Filters



## Installation:

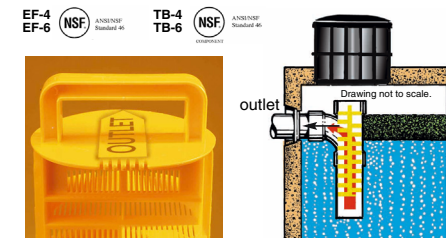
Tuf-Tite Effluent Filters are designed to extend the life of your drainfield by preventing solids from leaving the septic tank. The filter fits into either a 4" or 6" Tee Baffle which in many cases is already attached to the outlet pipe. If a Tee Baffle is not installed, install as shown in Figure 2, allowing enough clearance from the end of the tank to permit easy filter access.

1. Insert the filter into the Tee Baffle with arrow on the top of the filter pointing toward the outlet pipe (as shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2).

2. Push down firmly until top of the filter seats into hub of the Baffle Tee.

## Maintenance:

Tuf-Tite Effluent Filters will, under normal conditions, operate efficiently for several years or more before requiring removal and cleaning. It is suggested that the unit be cleaned every time the tank is pumped or at least every three years.



**Figure 1:**  
Arrow on top of filter unit must point in the direction of the outlet pipe. Top rim of filter will seat in hub of Tee.

**Figure 2:**  
Diagram of installed filter and Tee Baffle. Note: drawing is not to scale.

## BIO-CLEAN

Septic System Treatment  
Certified by Environment Canada

All organic waste is broken down by a natural biological process, enzymes breakdown waste so that bacteria can digest it. There is not an adequate amount of bacteria or enzymes naturally occurring in waste to completely digest the solids.

Today septic systems require a quality biological septic additive to operate effectively. A high quality additive will generate necessary bacteria and enzymes needed to prevent system failure and malfunction.

### WHAT IS BIO-CLEAN

**BIO-CLEAN** is a complete blend of natural bacteria and enzymes which digest organic waste. This enzyme concentration is the most powerful at breaking down all components of waste.

### REDUCES PUMP-OUTS

Bacteria and enzymes digest all organic waste leaving only water, carbon dioxide, and mineral ash.

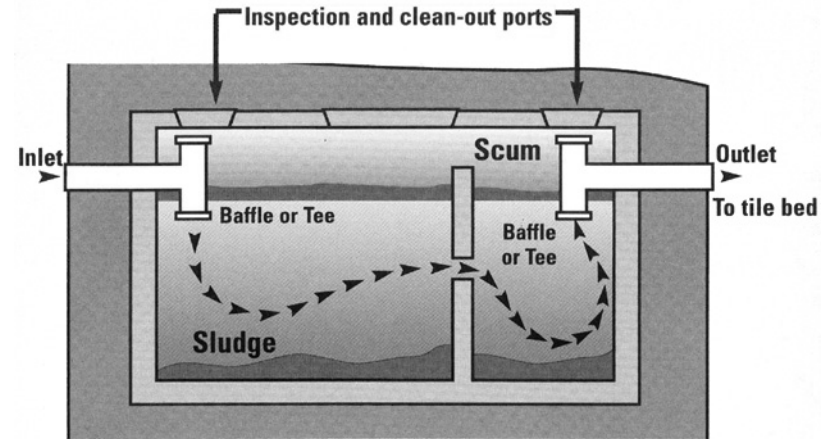
### PREVENTS TILE FIELD FAILURE

**BIO-CLEAN** digests solids in the septic tank so they do not enter the tile field. The main cause of tile field failure is solids in the tile lines. **BIO-CLEAN** can be used to restore plugged tile fields and lines, without digging!

### ELIMINATES ODOURS

**BIO-CLEAN** eliminates odour problems by digesting the odorous waste. Digested waste has no odour!

## ORDER YOURS TODAY!



### When septic systems don't work

If the tank is not pumped out regularly, the sludge and/or scum layers will be drawn into the wastewater distributed to the tile bed, eventually overloading the system. After sufficient overload time, the tile bed will no longer be capable of distributing the wastewater into the ground, causing "breakouts".

These are direct discharges of partially treated wastewater onto the ground surface. Sewage and its associated wastes will filter into the soil, contaminating everything it reaches – your well, your neighbour's well, the underground water supply, and local streams and rivers.

If too much water is dumped in the tank, the tile bed will be overloaded with the same result, as well as the possibility of it backing up into your house.

If excess household chemicals, soaps and detergents are washed into the septic tank, the bacterial action may be slowed or killed.

# Signs of Trouble

Some common signs of trouble are:



Foul odours in house or drinking water.



Unusually green or thick grass growing around the leaching area.



Sogginess in the ground around the septic tank or leaching area.



Toilets or drains which are backed up or run slower than usual.



Surface flooding of sewage or effluent around the septic system.



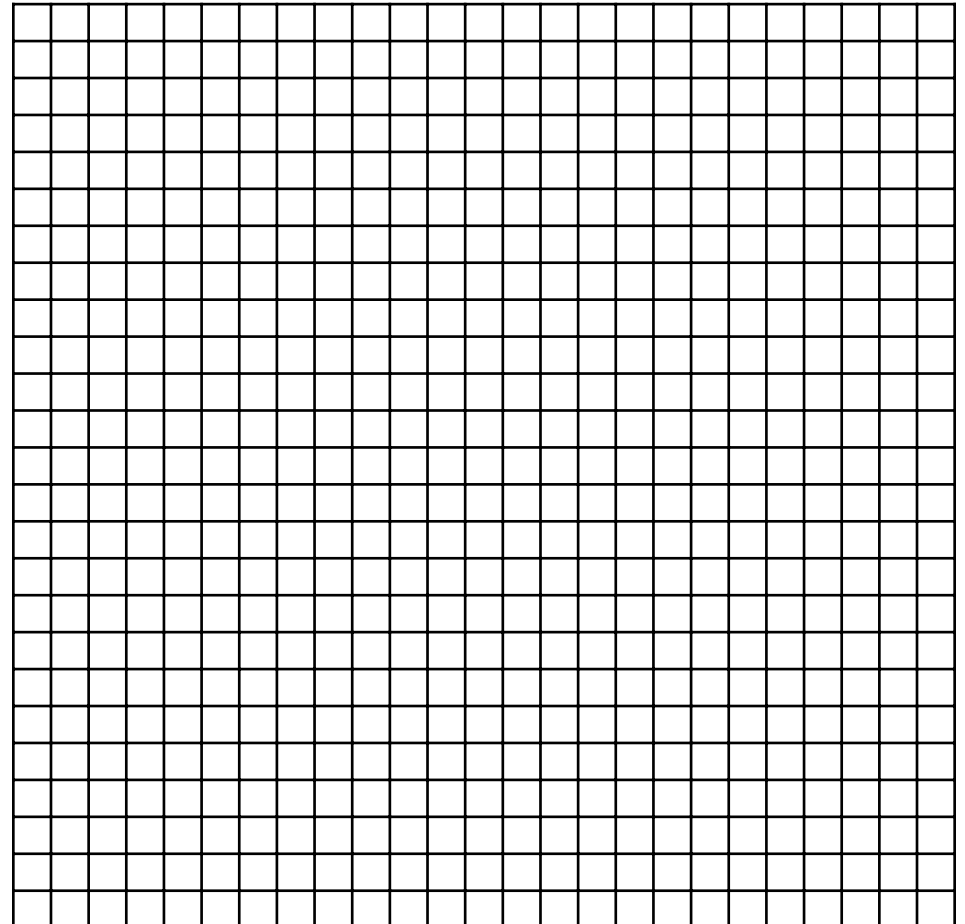
High levels of nitrates, bacteria or other contaminants in wellwater.

If you notice any of these signs call a certified inspector immediately. If left unattended the sewage or effluent will filter into the soil contaminating everything, possibly including your neighbour's well, the underground water supply, and local streams and rivers.

# Where is Your Tank?

It is a great advantage to know exactly where your tank is so you can be on top of your tank's maintenance and be able to notice problems immediately. It is also beneficial to know your tank location so it can be uncovered by yourself to save costs along with having an inspector find quickly and easily will mean lower bills as well.

**MAP OUT YOUR TANK LOCATION WITH THE GRID PROVIDED**









# SYSTEM MAINTENANCE LOG

DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION

## The Do's



- 
 Do know where the tank is located and keep a maintenance record.
- 
 Do have the tank pumped on regular intervals along with inspections.
- 
 Do plant grass over the leaching field; it will help prevent erosion and absorb excess water.
- 
 Do divert surface runoff from other sources (roofs, driveways etc.) away from the leaching field.
- 
 Do conserve water to avoid overloading the system. *If you are having a lot of guests over rent a portable toilet!*
- 
 Do have an effluent filter installed in the tank to reduce the amount of solids entering the leaching bed.

**BECAUSE TANKS CONTAIN DEADLY GASES, SEPTIC TANKS AND SYSTEMS SHOULD ONLY BE INSPECTED BY FIRMS SPECIALIZING IN THIS WORK.**

# The Don'ts



Do not install a garbage disposal without checking whether your septic tank can handle the extra volume.



Do not build on, drive over, or place heavy equipment on the tile bed.



Do not pave over top your tile bed.



Do not plant trees or shrubs on or around the tile bed because the roots will grow into the system and clog the lines.



Do not use your toilet as a trash bin.



Do not put harmful chemicals such as bleach, borax, drain openers, soaps or detergents down the drain.

## NEVER, EVER FLUSH THESE ITEMS INTO YOUR TANK!

- Loose hair
- Coffee grounds
- Kitty litter
- Cigarette butts
- Diapers, gauze, bandages
- Paints
- Varnishes
- Waste oils
- Herbicides or pesticides

# Your Home Record

## PERMIT:

Issued to: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Description: \_\_\_\_\_

## DESCRIPTION:

Septic Tank Size (gallons): \_\_\_\_\_

Pump Tank Size (gallons): \_\_\_\_\_

Drain-Field Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Drain Field Dimensions: \_\_\_\_\_