

MAINTENANCE TIPS

◆ Be sure that your septic tank is cleaned every 3-5 years by a professional. If the tank is not cleaned, the accumulation of sludge and scum is flushed into the disposal field, plugging holes in the pipes and the pores of the soil.

◆ Avoid pouring non-biodegradable items (such as grease, disposable diapers, paper towels, etc) and toxic substances (oil, paint, etc.) into your septic tank.

◆ A moderate use of bleaches, cleansers and other household products will not harm your septic tank.

◆ The area over the disposal field can be covered with lawn to promote evaporation, but it should not be planted with trees or shrubs.

◆ Patios, pools and tool sheds should not be erected over or near the disposal field.

◆ Avoid driving or parking automobiles, tractors, or heavy equipment over field.

◆ The disposal field should not be allowed to drain to road ditches, streams, or to the ground surface of any property.



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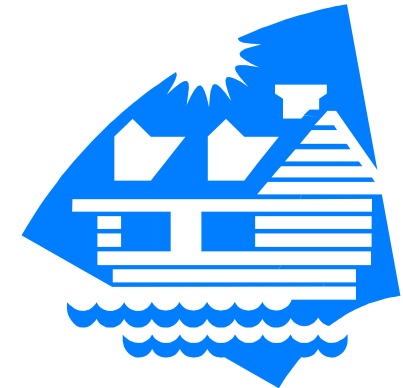
For more information, please
contact the Department of Health
and Wellness of New-Brunswick



Your Environmental Trust Fund at Work
Votre Fonds en fiducie pour l'Environnement
au travail!



Septic System Improvement Project



THE PROJECT

◆ In New Brunswick rural areas, water treatment is normally carried out using a septic tank system. With a growing number of houses, most of which are moving closer to our watercourses, the water quality can sometimes be threatened.

◆ In order to help remedy the situation and to improve the water quality in our territory, the Cap-Pelé Watershed Group has joined with the province of New Brunswick to coordinate a septic system improvement program. This program, financed by Your Environmental Trust Fund at Work (ETFW), aims to give financial help to homeowners who have serious problems with their septic tank. In order to determine who is qualified, interested homeowners must fill an application form available at our Cap-Pelé office or on our Web site (www.bassincappele.com).

Here are the principal selection criteria:

◆ Homeowner`s primary residence is in one of the following communities (Grand-Barachois, Haute-Aboujagane, Cormier Village, Robichaud, Saint-André/Leblanc, Trois-Ruisseaux, Petit-Cap, Shemogue and the Village of Cap-Pelé).

◆ Homeowners annual household income must be \$50 000 or less.

◆ Selection priority will be accorded to the impact of the system on the water surface (Brooks and rivers).

◆ Homeowner must agree to pay the remainder of the costs after the government grant.

**For more information contact
us at 577-2071.**

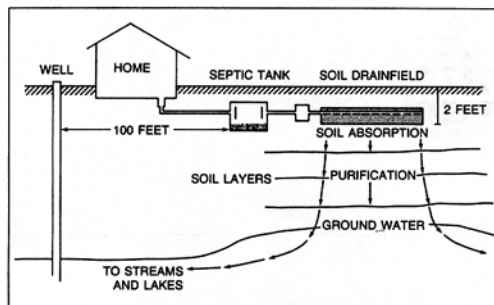
TROUBLE SIGNS

Here is a list of possible signs that could indicate septic tank failure:

- ◆ Disposal field ground is frequently wet and spongy;
- ◆ Sewage odors;
- ◆ Well water contains nitrates or fecal coli form bacteria (E. coli);
- ◆ A slow flow from toilets and drains in the house;
- ◆ Waste water back-up into house

SEPTIC TANK

The septic tank system consists of two parts: a septic tank and a disposal field. Your septic tank system treats your household wastewater by holding it temporarily in the septic tank. The septic tank allows heavier solids to settle to the bottom while grease, oil, soap and fat rise to the top and form a scum. The disposal field is a series of perforated plastic pipes laid in gravel-filled trenches that allows wastewater to slowly soak into the soil. While the wastewater penetrates the soil, the soil is treated and purified. A septic tank system that works properly will not pollute the waters.



A septic tank that does not work properly can:

- ◆ Signify a threat for the health of your family and neighbors;
- ◆ Pollute the environment;
- ◆ Pollute your drinking water;
- ◆ Reduce the value of your property.

DID YOU KNOW?

◆ More than 80% of the drinking water contamination cases are related to faulty septic system.

◆ Approximately 80% of the pollution load in the ocean originates from land-based activities.