



## SEPTIC SYSTEM ADDENDUM

By signing this addendum, the tenants acknowledge that this information is understood and agreed upon:

The system is very fragile, so it is of great importance that you treat it with care. Toilet paper is the **ONLY** thing that should be put down the toilet. Please use a septic friendly toilet paper. The brands that are septic friendly will be marked as such on the package. Scott is one brand that is septic friendly.

The following are some tips for the care and use of your septic system.

- Only human waste and toilet paper can be put down the toilets.
- NEVER flush cat litter, disposable diapers, feminine hygiene products, wet wipes or wipes of any kind, tampons, paper towels, facial tissues, coffee grounds, cotton balls, condoms, or cigarette butts and filters. They'll clog your septic tank in less time than you might imagine. Tenants can be held liable for costs related to pumping and/or repairing/replacing the system.
- NEVER pour grease down drains. Grease can clog the septic drain field making it impossible for the soil to absorb liquids. If that happens, the tenant could be held responsible for a new drain field, septic pumping, etc.
- Toilet paper substitutes should not be flushed into a septic tank; these may include paper towels, tissues, newspaper, **any kind** of wipes, wrapping paper, and rags. These items do not decompose in the tank and are likely to lead to clogging of the plumbing and disposal system.
- Water conservation helps prevent overloading in the drain field. Such overloading could shorten the septic tank's life and require expensive repairs. Leaky faucets and running toilets should be repaired; if there is a leak, call Equity. (979-696-4464)
- Minimize heavy duty cleaners and avoid hazardous chemicals. Overuse of heavy cleaners kills beneficial bacteria in the septic tank so solids won't break down as well. **NEVER POUR BLEACH DOWN A DRAIN!** Varnish, paint thinners, motor oils, gasoline and other similar chemicals can ruin your system and are a hazard to groundwater. Do not pour them down the drain; dispose of them properly.

### PERFORM REGULAR MAINTENANCE:

- Never attempt to open a septic tank yourself. Gases and bacteria in it are dangerous.

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RESIDENT SIGNATURE

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DATE

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RESIDENT SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

# How to Care for Your Septic Tank and Septic System

## Don't Overload the Septic Tank and Drain Field

- Check faucets and toilets for leaks; make repairs or call for service if necessary.
- Reduce water levels for small loads of laundry.
- Wait until the dishwasher is full to run it.

## The Toilet Isn't a Garbage Disposal

- NEVER flush cat litter, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, tampons, paper towels, facial tissues, coffee grounds, or cigarette butts and filters. They'll clog your septic tank in less time than you might imagine. You can be liable for costs related to pumping and/or repairing/replacing the system.

## NEVER Pour Grease Down the Drain

- Grease can clog the septic drain field making it impossible for soil to absorb liquids. If that happens you could be held responsible for a new drain field, septic pumping, etc.

## Use Garbage Disposals Wisely

- A garbage disposal can double the amount of solids added to a septic tank. Try to put waste in the garbage as much as possible.

## Minimize Heavy Duty Cleaners and Avoid Hazardous Chemicals

- Overuse of heavy cleaners kills beneficial bacteria in the septic tank, so solids won't break down as well. NEVER POUR BLEACH DOWN A DRAIN!
- Varnish, paint thinners, motor oils, gasoline and other similar chemicals can ruin your system and are a hazard to groundwater. Dispose of them properly.

## Protect the System from Damage

- Do not drive over the drain field, build a structure on top of it, or cover it with concrete or asphalt.
- Do not build fires over the drain field.

## PERFORM REGULAR MAINTENANCE:

- QUARERLY OR MONTHLY ADD SEPTIC TREATMENT TO TANK, as directed by manufacturer.
- Solids must eventually be pumped from the tank. Many experts advise a family of four with a 1,000 gallon septic tank to have the tank pumped after 3-5 years of full time use. Other experts say you can go much longer between pumping operations.
- Never attempt to open a septic tank yourself. Gases and bacteria in it are dangerous.