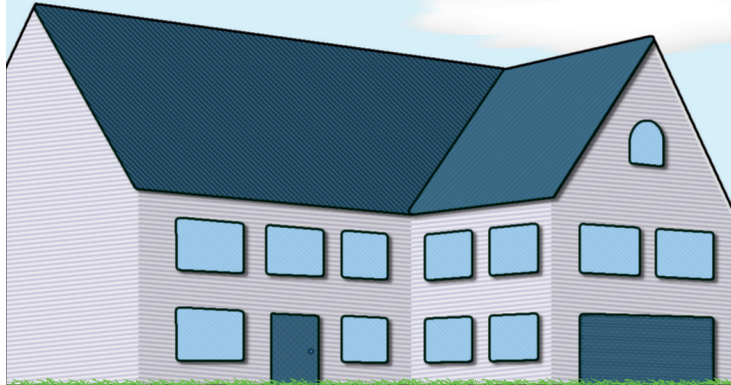


# How's That Septic System Been Doing?

Your On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) can last nearly 30 years if you treat it right.



## When's the last time you pumped it?

Pump your OSSF every three to five years to prevent system failures. You don't want to learn you're overdue during a midnight trip to the bathroom.

## Are you taking care to only flush the Three P's?

Pee, poop, toilet paper – that's all that should be going down your toilets. No more, no less. Hygiene products, wipes, floss, etc. all go in the trash.

## Are you being careful in the kitchen?

Avoid putting fat, oil, and grease (FOG) down the drain as these will solidify and clog your pipes. You should also take care to only put soft perishables through your garbage disposal as things like coffee grounds or eggshells cause clogs.

## Your OSSF is a delicate ecosystem.

### Are you letting your septic system breathe?

Anything heavy like cars or livestock on your drain field can compact the soil and damage your pipes.

Avoid standing water by using landscaping or gutters to carry water away from the field.

Never pave, gravel, or build over your drain field and avoid planting trees, bushes, invasive plants, and crops.

### Are your microbes healthy?

Your drain field is teeming with microbes that break down your waste. You should take care to keep them healthy.

Medicines, cleaning products, and greases are all toxic to your drain field ecosystem and should be collected in separate containers for proper disposal.

If you take care of your microbes, they'll do the rest.



The creation of this mailer was financed through funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This advice is not comprehensive; additional resources can be found online at [nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/tmdl](http://nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/tmdl)





Hello, is your

well-maintained?

Septic System



Revised 05-2023

