

When was the last time you performed septic maintenance? Unsure? Ask yourself these questions!

- Do you pay a water or sewer utility bill? If yes, then you likely **DO NOT** have a septic system.
- Do your neighbors have septic systems? If yes, then you most likely have a septic system.
- NOTE: You can also submit a Subsurface Systems File and Archive Record Request to NHDES through their online portal, or submit the form by fax: (603) 271-6683, or email: Irmp.archives@des.nh.gov

## **Septic Failure Leads to...**

- Exposure to harmful bacteria in the event that wastewater backs up into your home or overruns your yard.
- Wastewater flowing into nearby water bodies-preventing you from enjoying these spaces for recreation and potentially harming the area's wildlife.

## How can you prevent septic failture?

- ONLY FLUSH TOILET PAPER AND WASTE Human waste and toilet paper are the only things that should be flushed down the toilet, anything else, even items claiming to be flushable, can potentially clog your septic system
- <u>PUMP EVERY 3-5 YEARS!</u> This prevents waste from overloading your system! Doing this maintenance step will ensure the longevity of your septic system.
- <u>DON'T DRIVE ON YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM</u> This can cause damage to the septic system in your yard.
- <u>SAVE WATER</u> Fixing leaks and allowing time between large water usages can help the good bacteria in your system to do its job properly.

Replacing a residential leach field can cost up to \$15k.

Usage of a garbage disposal will fill your septic system faster! On well water & have a septic system? Test drinking water to ensure no contamination!

## **Sources:**

1. https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-ms4/?page\_id=54

2. https://getpumpednh.com/





