

WHY MAINTAIN A SEPTIC SYSTEM?

- ✓ Saves money. Repairs or system replacement can be costly.
- ✓ Protects property value. Homes without properly functioning systems lose value.
- ✓ Protects the water supply. Leaching systems can release harmful bacteria.
- ✓ Helps the environment. A properly functioning system is not taxing on the environment.



“THE AVERAGE LIFESPAN OF A SEPTIC SYSTEM IS 15-40 YEARS, BUT IT CAN LAST LONGER IF PROPERLY MAINTAINED!”

Source: [EPA.gov](https://www.epa.gov)



Call today to schedule a well or septic evaluation!

810-987-5306

For More Information

www.scchealth.co

@scchdmi

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION



220 Fort St., Port Huron, MI 48060



MAINTAINING A SEPTIC SYSTEM

A Guide for Homeowners



810-987-5306



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PROTECT THE DRAIN FIELD

The septic system lives underground. Even though it cannot be seen, the system is doing an important job breaking down waste and dispersing wastewater.

- ✓ Never drive on a drain field
- ✓ Do not store heavy equipment on the field
- ✓ Use caution when landscaping
- ✓ Do not plant trees on, or near, the drain field
- ✓ Do not place a pool on the field
- ✓ Do not grow a vegetable garden on the drain field
- ✓ Keep the drain field free from overlapping patios, sheds or other structures

PROTECT THE SYSTEM



INSPECT AND PUMP

Septic systems require routine maintenance by a professional. The system should be inspected at least once every three years.

TOILETS



Do not flush anything besides human waste and septic-safe toilet paper. For a complete list of products that should not be flushed visit: water.epa.gov/septicmart.



DRAINS

Never pour cooking oil or grease down the drain. Remove garbage disposals or use them limitedly.

CONSERVE WATER

Install high-efficiency toilets, showerheads and faucet aerators.



Reducing water use and limiting the volume of water going into the septic system protects the system. Too much water entering the system at once doesn't allow the system time to properly treat waste.

AVOID ADDITIVES



A properly maintained system will have all the microbes necessary to break down waste.

AVOID TOXINS



The septic system contains living organisms that treat and breakdown waste. Toxins and chemicals can kill this bacteria and harm your system.