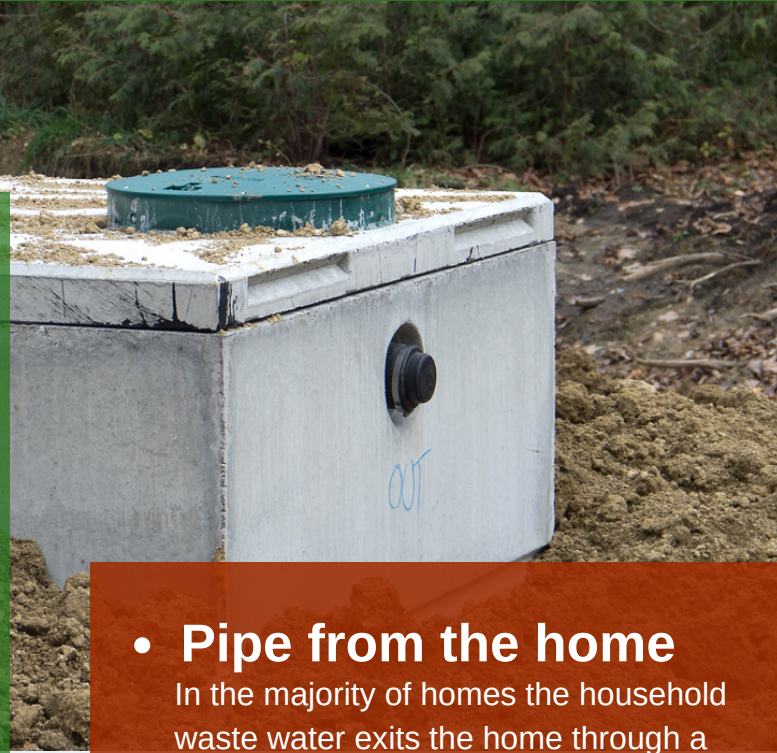




# LEARN ABOUT YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

Did you know that maintaining your septic system will protect the investment in your home?

If your septic system is properly designed, constructed and maintained it can provide long-term, effective treatment of household water.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

A septic system has four main components: a pipe that runs from the home, the septic tank, a drainfield and the soil.



- **Pipe from the home**

In the majority of homes the household waste water exits the home through a pipe and into the septic tank.

- **Septic Tank**

The septic tank is buried underground. The material varies, septic tanks are made of concrete, polyethylene (plastic) and fiberglass. The tank holds water long enough to allow solids to settle and form sludge and oil and grease to form scum and float to the top of the tank. This allows partial decomposition of solid materials. Compartments and T-shaped outlets in the tank prevent sludge and scum from leaving the tank.

- **Drainfield**

Wastewater exits the septic tank and is discharged into the drainfield to be further treated by the soil. If the drainfield is overloaded with too much liquid, this will cause it to flood. Which will cause sewage to flow to the surface or backup into the home.

- **Soil**

The wastewater flows to the drainfield, where it percolates into the soil, where final treatment takes place and removes harmful bacteria, viruses and nutrients.