SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY STORMWATER PROGRAM

WHERE WATER MEETS COMMUNITY

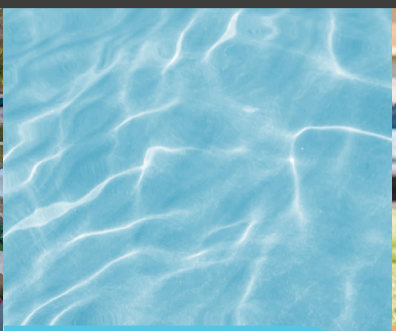
MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

- MAINTENANCE
- CONSERVATION

PROTECT YOUR



PROPERTY



WATER



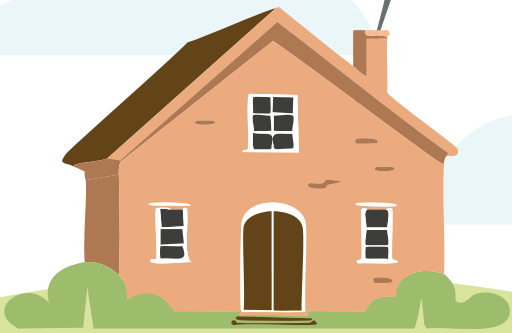
NEIGHBORS

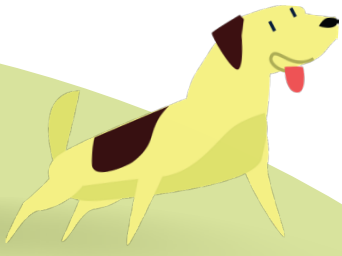
DO YOUR PART.
BE SEPTIC SMART.

September 16 - 20 is SepticSmart Week! Get familiar with the ins and outs of your septic sytem to avoid flushing money down the drain.

Save money by helping to avoid costly repairs, protect your property from damage, protect our waterways, and save our community from diseases caused by tainted water.

To become septic smart, visit:
www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart-week





www.epa.gov/septic/septicsmart-week

CONSERVATION

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR SYSTEM BY USING WATER EFFICIENTLY

The more water a household conserves, the less water enters the Septic System. Efficient water use can improve the operation of the system, help protect the environment and increase the lifespan of your system.

Here are some tips to help conserve water and extend the life of your system:

1. Install high-efficiency showerheads.
2. Turn off faucets while shaving or brushing your teeth.
3. Run the washing machine and/or dishwasher only when they are full.
4. Do not use toilets or sinks for disposing of solids that can go in the trash. Minimize the use of garbage disposals.
5. Make sure all faucets are completely turned off when not in use.
6. Maintain your plumbing to eliminate leaks.
7. Install aerators in the faucets in your kitchen and bathroom.
8. Replace old dishwashers, toilets, and washing machines with new, high efficiency models.

For more information on water conservation, please visit
www.BeWaterWise.com

PROPER MAINTENANCE

FOR YOUR PROPERTY

MINIMIZE GARBAGE/SOLIDS GOING INTO THE SYSTEM

- ✓ Loading a system with organic matter is one of the quickest ways to clog up your system.
- ✓ Minimize the use of a garbage disposal.
- ✓ Use a drain catch and put food waste in the garbage.
- ✓ Never dispose of solids such as kitty litter, feminine hygiene products, paper towels, diapers, cigarettes, etc. in the toilet or sink.

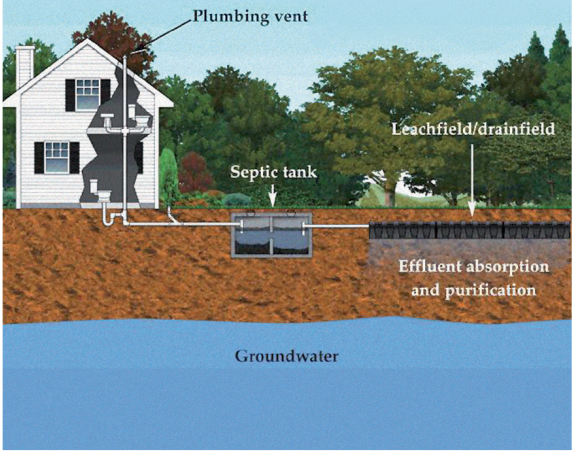
PROPERLY DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

- ✓ Never dispose of household chemicals or cooking oil into your system.
- ✓ Collect all hazardous waste in your home and bring them to a free Collection Center.
- ✓ Visit **sbcountystormwater.org** or call **1-800-OILY CAT** for collection centers in the region.

MAINTAIN ALL RECORDS

- ✓ Inspect your system every 1-3 years and pump your tank generally every 3-5 years to reduce your chance of system failure.
- ✓ Know where your tank/system is located. Avoid driving over, placing heavy equipment or doing construction over those areas.

KEEP ORGANIC MATTER OUT OF YOUR SYSTEM BY THROWING IT IN THE TRASH.



For further information on septic system maintenance, please visit **www.epa.gov/septic**

MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

✓ MAINTENANCE ✓ CONSERVATION

THE TOP THREE REASONS WHY THE CARE OF YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM IS SO IMPORTANT



You will protect the value of your property.

You will help to protect water quality and local waterways by preventing sanitary overflows that can enter the storm drain system.

You will prevent neighbors from whispering about "that smell"

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For unincorporated areas of the county, contact the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health at (800) 782-4264 for more information on permitting septic systems. For all other areas, please contact your local building department.

Big Bear • Chino • Colton • Fontana • Grand Terrace • Highland • Loma Linda • Montclair • Ontario • Rancho Cucamonga • Redlands • Rialto • San Bernardino • San Bernardino County • San Bernardino County Flood Control District • Upland • Yucaipa