

Practical advise for using and caring for your septic system.

## ASP's Top 10 Do's and Don'ts

**DO** have the septic tank pumped every three years (based on a typical family of four).

**DON'T** allow heavy vehicles or machinery to drive over the area of the septic tank or lateral field.

**DO** use detergents that are labeled "septic friendly" or "septic safe."

**DON'T** flush cigarette butts down the toilet – they will not break down into sludge.

**DO** use a bacteria product (flushed down the toilet monthly). We recommend and sell products suited for your system.

**DON'T** plant trees near the lateral field – their roots eventually will grow into the lateral system.

**DO** space out the timing of your showers and loads of laundry so you do not overload the tank and laterals.

**DON'T** put really greasy foods down the garbage disposal.

**DO** check bathroom vent pipes in the spring and fall for bird's nests or wasp nests.

**DON'T** pour motor oil down floor drains.