

Septic Tank Additives



Additives can cost hundreds of dollars; but never eliminate the need for regular septic system inspection and pumping, which will do far more toward extending the life of your system and preventing unnecessary repairs or replacement.

- All additives fall into 2 categories: chemical additives and biological additives. Some types of chemical additives are prohibited in Georgia.
- Additives can cause solids to break down into smaller particles that remain in suspension in the liquid within the tank. These small solids can flow into the drain-field and may lead to clogging. A clogged drain-field can be a nuisance and very expensive to correct.

Additives are not beneficial to on-site sewage management systems and, in fact, can be detrimental.



<https://nwgapublichealth.org/environmental-health/>

<https://dph.georgia.gov/wastewater-management>

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT WITH QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS

Bartow County

100 Zena Drive SE
Cartersville, GA 30120
(770) 387-2614

Catoosa County

182 Tiger Trail
Ringgold, GA 30736
(706) 406-2030

Chattooga County

60 Farrar Drive
Summerville, GA 30747
(706) 857-3377

Dade County

71 Case Ave. Ste H-100
Trenton, GA 30752
(706) 657-4213

Floyd County

16 East 12th Street
Rome, GA 30161
(706) 295-6316

Gordon County

310 N. River Street
Calhoun, GA 30701
(706) 624-1440

Haralson County

133 Buchanan Bypass
Buchanan, GA 30113
(770) 646-4301

Walker County

101 Napier Street
LaFayette, GA 30728
(706) 639-2574

Polk County

125 East Ware Street
Cedartown, GA 30125
(770) 749-2253

Paulding County

240 Constitution Blvd.
Ste 1A, Dallas, GA 30132
(770) 443-7877

Inform. Prevent. Protect



On-site Sewage Management System

Pumping Your Septic Tank



Inform. Prevent. Protect



Pumping a Septic Tank

- Septic tanks shall be accessed for pumping by excavating enough soil to remove the lid section or access port cover intact.
- Breaking a hole into the top or sides of the tank to access the contents is not acceptable.
- Pumping shall be accomplished by completely removing all liquid wastes, sludge and scum.
- Once the pumping operation is completed excavated soil shall be replaced and the ground surface returned to its original contour.



Certified Pumping Contractor

- A septic permit is not needed to pump out a septic tank.
- Please contact a pumping contractor certified by Georgia DPH to have the tank serviced. A Georgia DPH certified pumping contractors list can be obtained from your local Environmental Health Department.
- The condition of the tank should be noted at the time of pumping and written documentation should then be furnished to the property owner noting the condition of the septic tank. These receipts/invoices should be saved.

Maintenance of the Septic Tank

- A septic tank needs to be checked every **3 to 7 years** to see if it needs to be pumped out.
- If your system is over 5 years old, it may be due for pumping.
- Lack of maintenance can result in repairs costing thousands of dollars and put your community water supply at risk.

Typical Septic Tank

