Holiday Season Reminders

Septic System Edition

The holiday season is a time for celebration, family gatherings, and, of course, plenty of delicious food! With all the extra cooking, cleaning, and guests in your home, it's also the time when **septic systems** can face additional stress. To avoid the headache it's essential to keep a few important tips in mind.

Mind What Goes Down the Drain

During the holidays, many people are tempted to dispose of grease, oils, and food scraps in the sink, but these substances can easily clog your pipes and septic tank. Here's how to prevent that:

 Avoid pouring grease down the drain: Grease solidifies in your pipes and can block the flow of wastewater, leading to clogs. Instead, collect grease in a container and throw it away with your trash.

Be Careful With Your Toilet

Holiday guests tend to use the bathroom more often than usual, which means more waste goes down the toilet. To avoid unnecessary strain on your septic system:

 <u>Limit toilet paper use</u>: Encourage guests to use small amounts and avoid flushing paper towels, baby wipes, or other items that don't break down easily.

Don't Overload the System

During the holidays, it's easy to have multiple people using your sinks, toilets, and showers at once, but overloading your septic system with too much water can cause it to fail.

 <u>Stagger water usage</u>: Try to space out showers, laundry, and dishwashing to avoid overwhelming



the septic tank all at once. This gives the system a chance to process the wastewater properly.

Protect Your Drain Field

The drain field is a critical part of your septic system. If this area becomes overloaded or damaged, your system can experience backups, foul odors, or slow draining.

 Avoid parking on or near the drain field: Cars, heavy equipment, and even excessive foot traffic can damage the pipes and soil in the drain field. Always keep this area clear.

Regular Pumping and Maintenance

The best way to prevent septic system issues is by staying on top of regular maintenance. Having your septic tank pumped and inspected before the holiday season can prevent backups caused by a full tank or issues with your drain field.

- <u>Schedule a septic tank pumping</u>: If your tank is due for pumping, make sure to schedule it ahead of time.
- <u>Get an inspection</u>: In addition to pumping, it's also a good idea to have your septic system inspected to make sure everything is functioning properly, before they become larger, more expensive problems.

You can keep your septic system running smoothly through the holiday season. If you're unsure about the condition of your system or need to schedule a pump, don't hesitate to call