

Town meeting MAY 15, 2021

When it Rains it Drains!

Green Grass Clear Water

Do your Part - Be SepticSmart!

Why is it important to properly maintain my septic tank?

Septic tanks are an important part of your home's wastewater system. They collect and store wastewater from your home's plumbing fixtures (sinks, toilets, showers, etc.) before it is released into the ground. If your septic tank is not properly maintained, it can become clogged and overflow, causing raw sewage to back up into your home or leak into the ground. This can be a health hazard and can also pollute the environment.

Regular maintenance is key to keeping your septic tank in good working order. This includes pumping out the tank every 3-5 years, checking for leaks, and making sure you're not putting too much grease or non-biodegradable materials down the drain.

Why it Rains it Drains

When it rains, the water runs off the roof of your house and into the ground. If the ground is saturated, the water can't soak in and it runs off into the nearby water body. This is called runoff. Runoff can carry pollutants like oil, grease, and chemicals from your driveway or lawn into the water. It can also erode the soil and create sediment that can clog the waterways.

To reduce runoff, you can take steps like planting trees and shrubs, using mulch, and creating a rain garden. A rain garden is a shallow depression in your yard that collects and absorbs rainwater. It can be filled with native plants that are adapted to wet conditions.

Water Conservation Corner

Water is a precious resource. We need to conserve it to make sure we have enough for everyone. Here are some tips to help you save water:

- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Fix leaks as soon as you find them.
- Use a bucket to wash your car instead of a hose.
- Water your lawn in the early morning or late afternoon to reduce evaporation.

Please Scoop the Poop!

It's important to pick up after your dog. Dog poop can be a health hazard to people and animals. It can also pollute the environment. Please use a bag to pick up your dog's poop and dispose of it properly. This helps keep our community clean and safe.

Have it or Leave it

Don't litter! Littering is not only unsightly, but it can also be harmful to the environment. Please dispose of your trash properly. If you see someone littering, please let them know that it's not okay. We all have a responsibility to keep our community clean.



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REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE ROT

The poster is divided into four columns under the headings **REDUCE**, **REUSE**, **RECYCLE**, and **ROT**.
- **REDUCE**: Includes images of a recycling bin, a stack of newspapers, and a row of green glass bottles.
- **REUSE**: Includes an image of cardboard boxes and a recycling symbol.
- **RECYCLE**: Includes an image of a pile of trash, a medical sharps container with the text "MEDICAL SHARPS CONTAINER NOT FOR RECYCLING!" and a website "www.mdcnj.gov", and a large bottle of motor oil.
- **ROT**: Includes an image of a compost pile and a small image of a compost bin.
At the bottom of the poster, there is a section titled "How to Recycle" with a list of items that can and cannot be recycled.

