SEPTIC SYSTEM TIPS

As the homeowner, you can perform simple steps to lower the cost of operating and maintaining your septic system:

Don’t overload the septic tank and drainfield – Check faucets and toilets for leaks and make necessary repairs. Use aerator on faucets and low flow shower heads to lower water consumption. Reduce water levels for smaller laundry loads. Run the dishwater on full load. Do not run water when brushing teeth.

Keep trees away – do not plant trees within a 100 ft of the system. Trees with aggressive roots such as elms should be even further away.

The toilet isn’t a garbage disposal – never flush cat litter, disposable diapers, napkins, hygiene products, paper towels, facial tissues, coffee grounds, cigarette butts or anything else that can clog the septic tank and drainfield. Once the drainfield gets clogged the only way to fix is to replace.

Do not pour grease down the drain – Grease WILL clog sewer lines, septic tanks and drainfields. This is the number one reason we have to perform a rotor rooter service. By not putting grease down the drain can save you money. Instead, bag the grease and place in the trash.

Do not pour chemicals down the drain – pouring of chemicals down the drain will kill beneficial bacteria that live inside your septic tank and break down the waste. We offer the beneficial bacteria needed for a proper operating septic tank, please contact us for more information.

Protect the system from damage – build barriers around your septic tank and drainfield to prevent damage from crushing. Leave room for the service truck to reach the tank. Do plant small vegetation or local grasses on the drainfield to minimize soil erosion. Make sure the access lids on your
tank are well sealed to prevent rainwater and debris from entering your tank. This can cause your septic tank to fill up and/or get plugged.

Know the location of your septic tank and cleanouts - When we come out to pump your tank, have your access ports exposed so we can easily pump your system. We have a digging fee if they are not exposed. We also can install access ports with lids. Contact our office for more information.

Perform regular maintenance – solids must eventually be pumped from the tank. A family of four with a 1,000 gallon tank should have the tank pumped after 2-3 years of full time use. If you are very careful of what goes in the septic tank, you can go much longer between pumping. Never attempt to open a septic tank alone.

Just because your septic tank is full of water does not mean it is time to pump your septic tank. A septic tank needs to be full of liquid to operate properly and send treated water to the drainfield. A septic pumping is to remove the solids buildup at the bottom of the tank. We recommend you put in beneficial bacteria once your tank has been pumped. Contact our office for information on the beneficial bacteria.

Before you have events at your home or are expecting a large crowd, check your system to make sure it is operating normal. There are additional charges to service your system after normal working hours, weekends and holidays!!!

We also offer septic system replacement services. We can come to your home and give you a quote for a new septic system based on your needs. Call for more information.
The Pueblo of Acoma Water & Wastewater Department is committed to providing exceptional water & wastewater services to the Pueblo and neighboring communities. We offer a wide variety of services including rotor rooters, septic system servicing, new water and sewer connections, inspection services, repairs, etc...

The first step is to fill out a work order. We are located in the Post Office Complex, first door on the left. After a work order is filled out, we will give you a quote for the work. Once you have accepted the quote, you will need to make payment for the total amount and to be placed on the schedule. Our Department will complete the work and notify you when complete.

Our office does not accept payment. Payment must be made at the Central Accounting Office, located in the new Community Center. Take the work order along with your payment and Accounting will issue you a receipt. Once payment is made we will put you on the schedule and complete the work.

Fill Out A Work Order
• at our office

Work is Performed
• after payment has been made

Review the Quote
• we will provide a quote for requested service

Make Payment
• at Accounting in the New Community Center

SEPTIC SYSTEM SERVICING (Acoma Members):

Septic tank pumping...............................................$55.00
(Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Septic tank enzymes.................................................$10.00
(beneficial bacterial needed for the breakdown of waste)

Digging fees..........................................................$30.00
(Charged when we have to expose cleanouts and access ports)

Septic tank pumping...............................................$150.00
(Mon, Wed, Fri, nights & weekends)

Septic tank pumping...............................................$200.00
(Acoma & federal holidays)

Install access port riser with lid......................Call for pricing
(dependent on depth of tank)

New septic tank and/or drainfield...........Call for pricing
(dependent on site conditions)

OTHER SERVICES (Acoma Members):

Yard faucet.....................................................Call for pricing
(installation of new frost-free faucet)

Rotor rooter ......................................................$40.00
(Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Rotor rooter......................................................$80.00
(Mon, Wed, Fri, nights & weekends)

Rotor rooter......................................................$120.00
(Acoma & federal holidays)

Repairs.........................................................Call for pricing
(repairs outside of the home)

Inspections....................................................Call for pricing
(code compliance for construction)

We also provide installation for new water and wastewater connections. Please come by the office for more information.

We do not work inside your home or within 5 feet of your home. For work on or in your home, we have a list of local licensed plumbers that can offer services. Call or come by the office for more information.

Many times the Water & Wastewater Department is called out for an emergency water break in or around a home and the homeowner does not know where the shut off is. This can cause damage to your personal belongings and property. You as the homeowner should know where you shut off is. Take the time to locate this in a non-emergency situation. If you are unsure, call our office and we can assist you with locating the water shutoff to your home.

Water Conservation

• Remember to check your faucets and toilets for leaks and make the necessary repairs
• Use an aerator on faucets and low flow showerheads
• Run the dishwasher and clothes washer only when full
• Do not use water from the faucets to water animals, use the windmills
• Avoid washing vehicles at home, use the car wash

By doing these small things and others, you can save yourself and the Pueblo of Acoma valuable resources.