

# Looking After Your Septic or Wastewater Treatment System

## WHAT UPSETS THE BALANCE

The greatest cause of problems with your treatment plant or septic systems are cleaning products, the washing machine and medications.

## CLEANING PRODUCTS

Unfortunately what we call cleaning products, your wastewater system may class as poisons. Like humans, some poisons kill us while others will just make us sick and the same will happen to the bacteria in your wastewater system. You must use environmentally friendly and **no anti-bacterial products**.

Your wastewater system is a living eco-system and relies on good bacteria to work effectively. Any product used that kills bacteria is harmful to your system. If you wish to use some of the harsher cleaning products, it is suggested that you use a bucket and discard the contents in the garden after use. This also applies to disinfectants, surface sprays, wipes and any chlorine or bleach based cleaners.

## WASHING MACHINES

Try to evenly spread your washing over a period of a week. Avoid, where possible, washing everything in one day. It puts too much water in the system and tends to flush the good bacteria through the system before they have time to work. Liquid laundry soaps breakdown easier than granular styles do. Try not to be heavy handed with the amount of soaps you use. When working properly, your wastewater system will work efficiently with no odours or problems. It just needs a happy balance of good bacteria.

## MEDICATIONS

While there are times that your family needs to use medications, these will have an adverse effect on your system. You may need to add an extra dose of Septic Science Septic Clean to counteract the effects of medications on your septic's ecosystem. Unfortunately, Chemotherapy drugs do eventually kill the bacteria in your system however, Septic Clean can help eliminate some of the odours during your treatment and when treatment has finished, the system should be pumped out and re-seeded with 4 x weekly doses of Septic Clean to bring back the biological balance.

## SUITABLE PRODUCTS

All products should be used in moderation

### DISHWASHING LIQUIDS

- Morning Fresh
- Sunlight
- Palmolive
- Eco friendly brands
- Finish for Dishwashers (limit quantity)

### SURFACE CLEANERS

- Jif Cream Cleaner
- Spray & Wipe (limit quantity)
- Windex
- Shower Power

### TOILET CLEANERS

- Jif Cream Cleaner or any cream cleaner
- Toilet fresheners and cleaners are not recommended.

### FLOOR CLEANERS

- Use hot water and detergent.

### LAUNDRY POWDERS AND LIQUIDS

- Liquids tend to have less fillers (phosphates) than powders.
- Do not use products that advertise that they are whiteners, bleaches or anti-bacterials.

## PRODUCTS TO BE AVOIDED

### ANTIBACTERIAL SOLUTIONS

- Nappy Soakers & Whiteners
- Pineoclean & other disinfectants
- Blue Loo & other toilet cleaners
- Milton Tablets

### BLEACHES

- Domestos, White King or any bleach
- Hair colours and lighteners

### OTHER CLEANERS

- Exit Mould
- Flea, Tick Wash
- Handy Andy
- Bubble Baths
- Spirits/Alcohol
- Draino etc.
- Caustic Oven Cleaners

#### Please Note:

The above list is not intended to promote or discredit the product of any company. It is provided to assist in ensuring the satisfactory on-going operation of your system

## WHAT NOT TO DO TO YOUR SYSTEM

**Never pour down the sink or flush down the toilet any of the following:**

1. Anything from your home brew kit
  2. Sour milk, yogurt or orange juice
  3. Cooking oils
  4. Excess food scraps (particularly from a garbage grinder)
- All of these will provide too much food material for the bacteria to use. They must be disposed of in proper containers in your garbage collection.

**Never dispose of any of the following items into the system**

1. Automotive oil
  2. Bleaches, disinfectants, whiteners
  3. Nappy liners, condoms, sanitary napkins
- Automotive oil is not treatable by this bacteria; the disinfectants will take away all the bacteria's oxygen; the sanitary items are impregnated with anti-bacterial matter, so they will never break down. The results will be - the good bacteria will die! The tank will almost certainly need to be pumped out to remove the gross pollutants and the tank refilled and re-started.

**Whatever the product, always ensure that it is marked as Bio-degradable and Safe for Use in septic/onsite systems.**



This provides some general information on domestic on-site wastewater systems including septic, but the principles apply to any wastewater treatment and land application systems. While local and state regulations and guidelines may vary with respect to sizing of treatment systems and restrictions on the disposal of the effluent, the primary concern is for the maintenance of a healthy environment. The information here is intended to be general in nature without resorting to highly technical discussion

See over for our products that help keep the balance in your wastewater system.

**SEPTIC SCIENCE**  
*Good Bacteria At Work*

[www.septicscience.com.au](http://www.septicscience.com.au)  
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Wastewater Systems use the bacteria that comes from our own bodies to form a fast acting eco-system in your septic tank. This provides the ideal environment for the breakdown of black and grey wastewater. Mother Nature uses this same process every day in and around us only, in most cases, it is so slow that we do not notice it.

## SEPTIC SCIENCE - SEPTIC CLEAN

is a wastewater system rejuvenator (for both Septic Systems and Wastewater Treatment Systems).

*The perfect drain cleaner and grease trap cleaner. It de-sludges septic tanks and eliminates odours and blockages!*

**Septic Clean** uses freeze dried bacteria to "seed" or replenish depleted bacteria levels in your treatment system. These bacterial imbalances will occur in every natural ecosystem from time to time. The imbalance may simply be seasonal e.g.: cold or hot weather that can cause the existing bacteria to become either sluggish or die off at quicker rates than normal. Some climatic changes can also cause an overgrowth of certain types of bacteria in the system that will cause excessive foaming within the system and the introduction of our "good" bacteria will get the balance back again. Or it could be man-made (normally unintentional) but it does need to be rectified. It could be as simple as the family being on medication for colds or flu during the winter months or someone who has helped to clean your house and used the wrong products.

**Maintenance Dosage:** Simply flush a 20ml scoop down a toilet and the kitchen sink plus one other drain outlet\* in the house once a month with cool to warm water (not hot). \*Rotate through all the drains including, shower, bath, vanities, laundry and other toilets on a monthly basis until all drains have been treated. The bacteria wake on contact with water and will be starting to multiply with 15 minutes. They will start to digest the solids and fats, oils and greases (FOG) from the drain-lines on their way down to the grease traps, and septic tanks or treatment system. Once in the tanks they will continue to digest solids and FOG. This will help reduce fats, clogging or sludge that has built up in the tank. They will also then travel down to the septic trenches to do more "cleaning" or be killed off in the disinfection chamber of a treatment system before the water is irrigated to your garden. The bacteria will also die back down to a normal level if and when the sludge and fat levels (food sources) are depleted. This is a natural process in nature that when the food runs out the weak die off.

**Problem Systems or Accidental Overdosed Cleaning Product Dosage.** Some systems will have problems that have built up over the years or someone has used a cleaning product that has impacted the health of your system. In this case, dose the system every week as above for a month (or as required) to bring the system back to health. Then resume the normal maintenance dosage.

**Composting Toilets.** 1 x 20gm scoop monthly into moistened compost medium promotes good composting activities and eliminates odours.

## SEPTIC SCIENCE - BIO SPRAY

is a bacterial based surface cleaner for general household cleaning – similar to 'spray and wipe' style products but with no harsh chemicals. The product is perfect for stainless steel and glass to get that lovely shine. Great for the whole house including bathrooms, kitchens, laundries and windows. For hard to shift soap scum buildup in showers, use an cream cleanser and finish off with Bio Spray. It has a light lemon fragrance that makes you feel like you have "cleaned". Using Bio Spray will also add extra bacteria into your wastewater system. This product is most economical when purchased in our concentrate packs. Liquid bacterial products have a 2-year shelf life and should be shaken before use.

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# SEPTIC CLEAN

## HIGH PERFORMANCE WASTEWATER SYSTEM REJUVENATOR!



Contains FAST acting good bacteria!



Available in:  
250gm - 3 months  
500gm - 6 months  
1kg - 12 months

100%  
Chemical  
FREE

Don't just mask the smell...  
Treat the reason it smells!

# BIO SPRAY

## MULTIPURPOSE SPRAY CLEANER



Available in:  
250ml Concentrate - makes up to 5lt  
1L Concentrate - makes up to 20lt



Keeps working AFTER  
you finish cleaning!