

MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

CHOCTAW HEALTH DEPARTMENT

AEROBIC TREATMENT UNIT MAINTENANCE

Learn these simple steps to protect your home, health, and environment:

Did you know that your household waste is processed directly onsite by a special kind of septic system called an aerobic treatment unit (ATU)? ATUs are not only more versatile than a conventional system, but also more efficient at processing waste. This highly versatile and efficient system has many advantages including the ability to be installed in a place where a conventional system could not go (due to soil quality or site conditions). ATUs can even be added to existing systems to help fix malfunctioning systems.

DO:

- Keep the system accessible for inspection and pumping yet protected from unauthorized entrance.
- Keep electricity going to the ATU at all times
- Call a service professional whenever you experience problems with your system, whenever the alarm is activated, or whenever there are any signs of system failure.
- Conserve water to avoid overloading the system. Be sure to repair any leaking faucets or toilets
- Space out loads of laundry over the week – too much water at once can hinder system performance
- Divert other sources of water, like roof drains, house footing drains, and sump pumps away from the system.
- Limit the amount of fat, grease, and food that enters the system – overloading system with organic material can cause premature failure. Garbage disposals are NOT recommended for houses on septic systems.
- Become familiar with how your particular system operates, and the way it looks, sounds, and smells when it is working correctly.

DON'T:

- Drive or park a vehicle over any part of your system.
- Use your toilet as a trash can.
- Poison your treatment system and the groundwater by pouring harmful chemicals down the drain.
- Don't plant trees on or near the system or drain line.

DO NOT FLUSH LIST:

Coffee Grounds
Kitty Litter
Cigarette Butts
Band-Aids
Dental Floss
Sanitary Napkins
Condoms

Tampons
Gauze
Varnishes
Paint Thinners
Fat, grease, or oil
Pesticides
Bleach

Plastic
Chemicals
Metals
Disposable diapers
Paper towels
Paints