

## SEPTIC SYSTEMS: CARE & MAINTENANCE

Septic systems don't normally require much maintenance, but occasionally they may need pumping, a fix or "tweak."

Last fall, we had a lot of rainfall which exposed some issues for a couple of us. Many MP homes are 15 years & older...As our homes & yards age, things can settle & change. Below are some tips/resources to help you better understand & care for your system:

- Pumping your system can cost up to \$400. We suggest you shop around. In the past, Metropolitan Sewer provided a \$150 allowance every 5 years but they no longer offer that.
- Pumping your system if you have issues will not necessarily fix your issues. Generally, pumping is not intended to remove large quantities of water, but rather to keep the system cleaned out & in good working order

If you notice gurgling when your toilets flush or water backing up in your sinks, that's an indicator you have a problem. Once you know where your tank & lines are located, look for standing water on either, especially the drain fields. If there is standing water after rainfall, this could be the source. In our case, the soil over our drain fields had settled, causing puddling above them. Lonely Oak Farms & Landscaping dug-out a supplemental gravel pit that attached to our drain fields, allowing more room for water to drain. The soil that was removed was then supplemented and "mounded" over the top of our drain fields to prevent puddling above the drain fields. So far, so good.

There are certainly other potential issues, so here are some vendors to call:

Lonely Oak Farms & Landscaping--David Kennedy, owner: 864-809-3574

Rick's Sewer & Drain: 864-962-0813

American Waste Septic Tank Service 864-877-8703

G & G Septic Tank Service--Joe Glenn, owner: 864-616-0381

Upstate Septic Tank: 864-303-1601