

TULALIP HOUSING DEPARTMENT 360-716-4580

## Septic Smart Living

Septic systems have a unique collection of living organisms, bacteria, enzymes, etc. that breakdown, treat and digest household waste. When chemicals and non-digestible items are put into the septic system, they breakdown those organisms, causing sludge to build up and cause blockages. That is why it is important to use septic safe household products.

Here are some key things to look for to determine if you are using septic safe products and a list of product examples:

- Biodegradable products
- “Green” cleaners
- Natural ingredients
- Borax
- Non-toxic
- Distilled white vinegar
- Lemon juice
- Baking Soda and Salt
- Borax
- Dawn Dish Soap
- BioKleen products
- Arm & Hammer products
- Seventh Generation products
- Ecos products

## How to Dispose of Cooking Grease

1. Pour it into a can or jar and allow it to cool, then throw it in the trash.
2. Save it for reuse.
3. Sop it up with a paper towel.
4. Strain it into foil.

## Being Septic Smart

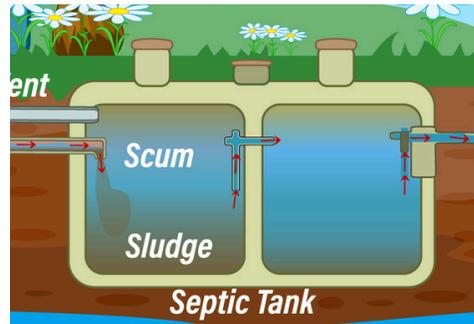
Alternatively, you can transfer cooking oil to a disposable container with a lid and place it in your household garbage. After disposing of the oil, clean the pots, pans, and appliances with kitchen degreaser.

### Signs of Septic Failure

Another important part of maintaining your septic system is to take care of your property. Make sure that your downspouts, gutters and downspout extensions or splash guards are in place and functioning to keep runoff water away from your septic system. Too much water can cause excessive water to sit and cause problems.

You should avoid parking vehicles, heavy equipment and pools where your septic tank is. The pressure can cause the soil to compress and damage the pipes.

Make sure you know where your septic tank, pipes and drain field are located before you plant, garden or dig. You do not want to plant items near your tank as roots can cause damage to your pipes.



Minor clogs of too much paper can happen and you can use a manual drain snake or plunger to clear it. Also, hot water can help.

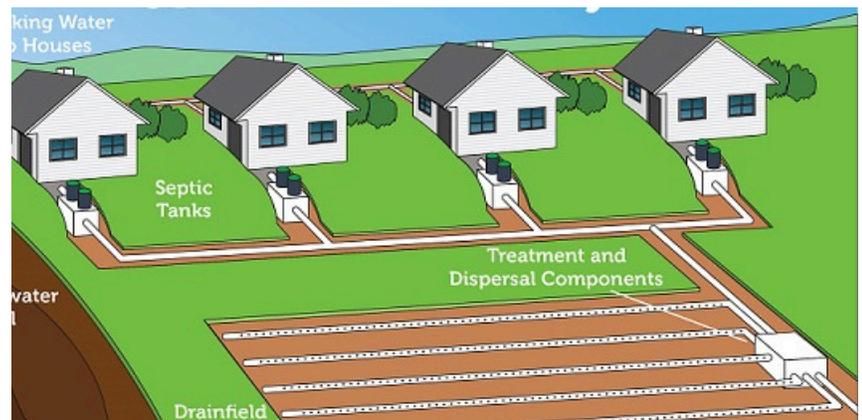
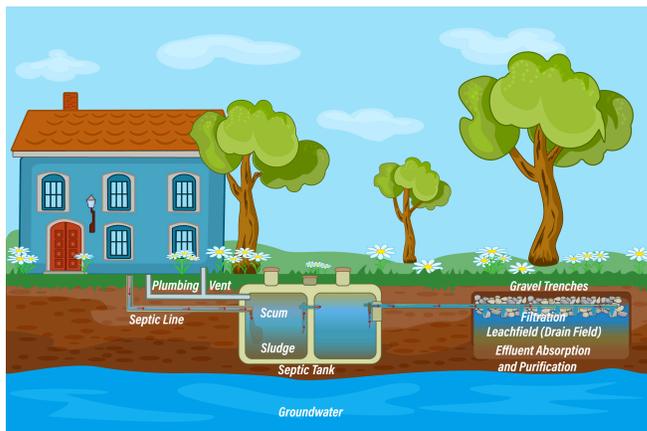
If you notice that your drains are moving slowly, sewage is backing up into the home, your yard is soft and smells strongly of sewage or you see sewage backing up into the yard - Contact Tenant Services immediately to report the error and stop using the water.

There are many septic tank additives and products that may help with breaking down sludge build-up or helping to add more organisms into the tanks' ecosystem which you can use, but is often not needed.

It is recommended that septic tanks are pumped every 3-5 years.

If you do not know whether or not you are on a septic system, you can contact tenant services to find out.

Below are some examples of the components, types and how they work.



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## Housing Updates

The Tulalip Housing Department would like to welcome new staff to the Housing Department. Please join us in welcoming:

William lukes - Tenant Services Specialist

Lisa Williams - Tenant Services Specialist

Tamur Zahir - Records Management Specialist.

The Tulalip Housing Department have made a few changes to help balance workloads and efficiency. Here are the changes:

Kiana Kona - Housing Services Supervisor (formerly Rental Voucher Specialist)

Shaelene Fryberg - Tenant Services Supervisor (formerly Compliance Specialist)

Regina Zackuse-Lane remains the Housing Manager

Teri Nelson is still interim Housing Director

## Rental Voucher Updates

For families receiving Rental Vouchers from TTHD, we wanted to give an update and reminder for those planning on moving from your unit into a new unit.

1. Contact your housing services specialist to give a 30-day notice. You will have to fill out a *Notice of Intent to Vacate* form. If you do not know your forwarding address at the time of giving notice, you will still need to fill it out and submit it.
2. Find housing that meets your current needs and is within the bedroom size for which you qualify for.
3. Be sure to notify your current landlord. Typically, they require a 30-day notice but you will need to verify with your landlord.
4. You will need to provide a new signed lease agreement to your housing specialist along with a W9, and *Landlord-Tenant* form from your new landlord

For additional questions or concerns, please contact Kiana Kona at 360-716-4583

## Contact Numbers

**Tenant Services**  
360-716-4580

**Tulalip Utilities**  
360-716-4840

**Leasing Department**  
360-716-4448

**Housing After Hours  
Emergency Line:**  
425-622-4855

*Emergencies include:*

- Leaks, flooding of sinks/toilets
- Electrical/hot water issues
- Appliances break
- Locked out/lost keys
- Exterior entry unsecured
  - Windows, doors or garages broken and/or do not lock

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**AREA**

**DELIVERY DATE**

**PICKUP DATE**

Silver Village Mission Highlands	Monday, April 14	Monday, April 28
Quil Meadows Quil 1 Quil 2 28th Dr NW John Sam 1/2/3	Tuesday, April 29	Tuesday, May 13
Y Site Battle Creek Church Site	Wednesday, May 14	Wednesday, May 28
Senior Apartments Senior Duplex Cedar Greens	Thursday, May 29	Thursday, June 12

**NO** nets, tires, paint, or household chemicals in the dumpsters.

**Questions? Contact Public Works at 360-716-5043**



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