

SEPTIC TANK EFFLUENT FILTERS

What the heck are they and why do I need one?

Septic tanks are designed to retain solids that accumulate over time. Some of these solids are byproducts of the waste treatment process, while others are materials that may not be capable of being processed, such as human hair. It is vital that these solids stay in the septic tank and not be released into the drain field, as discharge of solids to the drain field can cause it to plug and lose efficiency in the treatment and dispersal of the normal liquid flow. If the problem continues, the drainfield will fail and will have to be replaced.

Effluent filters provide an inexpensive means of preventing solids from getting into the drainfield and causing failure. They are installed at the outlet of the septic tank, collecting solids that may be discharged from the tank. Solids accumulate in the filter rather than going into the drain field. Periodically the filters need to be removed, and cleaned by flushing the solids back into the tank. This should be done at least yearly or if you notice sinks draining slowly. Effluent filters are certified by the National Sanitation Foundation Standard 46.