

HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU BE PUMPING YOUR SEPTIC TANK?

Your ideal pumping frequency depends on the size of your septic tank and the number of people living in your home. Contact a licensed septic pumper for the appropriate pumping frequency for your system.

This chart provides estimates for pumping frequency; for example, if you have a 1,000-gallon tank with 4 people living at your home, you will need to pump your tank approximately once every 2 ½ years.

SEPTIC TANK PUMPING FREQUENCY (IN YEARS)

Household Size – Number of Occupants										
Septic Tank Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1000 gallon	12	5½	3½	2½	2	1½	1	1	1	1
1250 gallon	15½	7½	4½	3	2½	2	1½	1	1	1
1500 gallon	19	9	6	4	3	2½	2	2	1½	1
2000 gallon	25	12	8	6	4½	3½	3	2½	2	2

Maintaining the health of our San Diego County watersheds requires us all to do our part. Ensuring your septic system is properly maintained helps prevent expensive emergency repairs and keeps our watersheds healthy.

For more information on septic systems, including permitting and requirements, contact the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health, Land and Water Quality Division.



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