

SEPTIC SYSTEMS: CLEANING FREQUENCY GUIDELINES

EFFECTS		POINTS FOR EACH FACTOR	
Enter 10 points for wastewater that enters the septic system for each of these appliances:	Water conditioning unit (water softener or iron filter)		_____
	Garbage disposal		_____
	Automatic clothes washer		_____
Enter 10 points if you have:	An in-home business (such as daycare, beauty shop)		_____
	More than 4 over-night guests at a time, several times per year		_____
	A laundry pattern of doing three or more loads/day		_____
Enter 10 points if your septic tank is smaller than indicated for the size of the house:	HOUSE SIZE	TANK CAPACITY	
	2-3 bedrooms	1000 gallons	_____
	4-5 bedrooms	1500 gallons	_____
	6-7 bedrooms	1750 gallons	_____
	8-9 bedrooms	2000 gallons	_____
Enter the points indicated if the last cleaning was:	FREQUENCY	POINTS	
	1-2 years ago	0	_____
	3-5 years ago	5	_____
	6-10 years ago	10	_____
	more than 10 years ago	12	_____
Enter the number of people for the house size and do the calculation.	HOUSE SIZE	# OF PEOPLE	LOAD (number can be negative)
	2 bedroom	_____	- 3 = _____ x 3 = _____
	3 bedroom	_____	- 4 = _____ x 3 = _____
	4 bedroom	_____	- 5 = _____ x 3 = _____
	5 bedroom	_____	- 6 = _____ x 3 = _____
	6 bedroom	_____	- 7 = _____ x 3 = _____
	7 bedroom	_____	- 8 = _____ x 3 = _____
TOTAL EFFECTS			_____

CREDITS		POINTS FOR EACH FACTOR
Enter 10 points if you:	Use a suds-saving or front-loading clothes washer, or do 4 or fewer loads of laundry spread throughout the week	_____
	Have two full-size septic tanks or one tank with 150% or more of the capacity required for your house	_____
Enter 5 points if you:	Use low-volume toilets (3 gallon or less per flush)	_____
	Have two or fewer people in the house and bathe fewer than five times per week	_____
TOTAL CREDITS		_____

Enter your numbers in this equation to calculate how often your septic tank should be cleaned.

$$36 - \boxed{} + \boxed{} = \boxed{} \text{ months between cleanings}$$

(effects number) (credits number)