

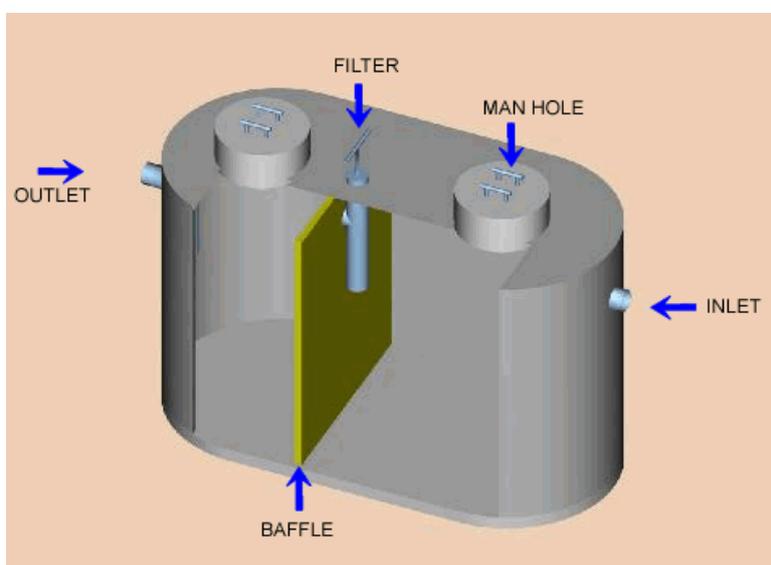


Maintenance Tips for Septic tanks with pump chambers and alkathene lines

At Greenacres Waiheke we are very interested in seeing all the island's septic and on site wastewater treatment systems run well, and economically and for as long as possible. Septic tanks are good reliable low cost systems, which should not give too many problems providing they are sensibly maintained. Apart from the three yearly pump outs under the Auckland Council Part 29 bylaw, all these systems require is a regular (usually six monthly) filter clean and line purge.

To clean the filter, simply pull it out from its housing and either hose it down (washing the biomass back into the septic tank), or scrub it using a bucket of water and a stiff brush. Then replace it into its housing. If this is not done then the blocked filter will prevent the sewerage flowing into the second chamber and the septic tank will overflow. In a normal household we would recommend a six monthly clean.

This is a diagram of the position of the filter in factory made precast two chamber septic tank.



If your system is based on an older style septic tank it may have a separate pump chamber buried next to it, then the filter will be right at the end of the septic tank.

In order to flush/purge the lines it is necessary to open the purge valves or flush taps at the end of each disposal line and to activate the pump in the pump chamber. The reason for doing this is to prevent the lines becoming blocked with an excess build up of biomass. Sometimes it is better to flush the lines one at a time, in order to keep the pressure up and get the biomass out of the lines. Once the line runs clear water then it can be closed and you can move onto the next one.

Some lines have little black taps on the end, others have plugs that you unscrew.

WARNING Modern wastewater treatment systems have electrical components and many of these are immersed. Any wastewater system with an electricity supply is a potential hazard. The maintenance options supplied are provided entirely for use at the sole discretion of the maintenance provider(s). Greenacres Waiheke Limited accepts no responsibility in any form whatsoever for maintenance/repair work, accident or damage as a result of work undertaken by any party not in the employ of Greenacres Waiheke Limited.

Greenacres Waiheke Limited

Phone 3727614

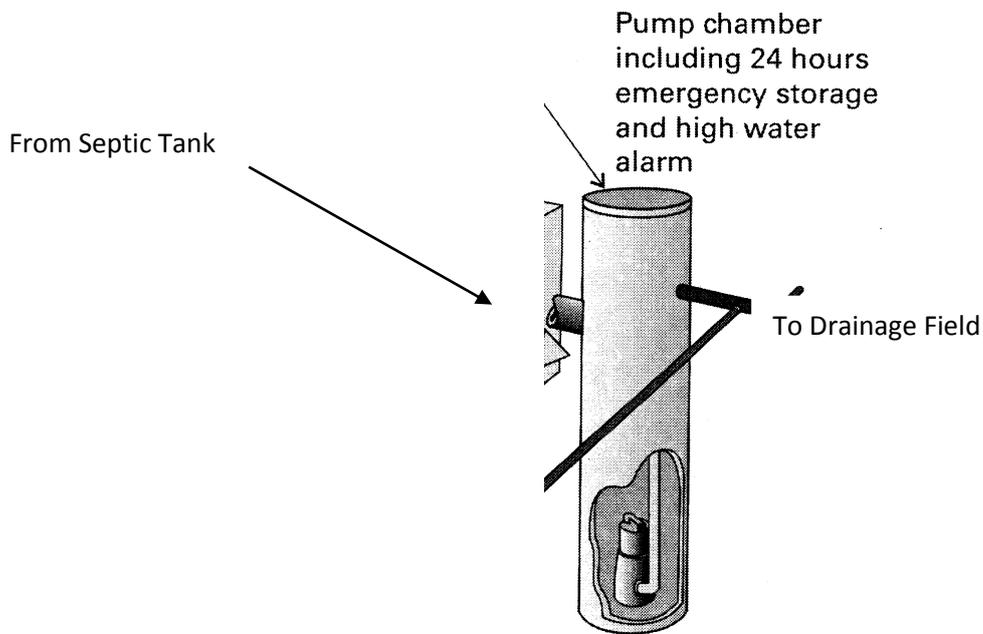
P O Box 395, Oneroa
Waiheke Island
Auckland 1840

info@greenacreswaiheke.co.nz
www.greenacreswaiheke.co.nz



Maintenance Tips for Septic tanks with pump chambers and alkathene lines

This is a diagram of the separate pump chamber that may feature when there is an older style septic in the system:



Otherwise the Pump will be under the manhole cover furthest away from the house.

The pump itself can be activated by lifting the float switch with an old fishing line, garden hoe or whatever you can find.



Float Switch to be lifted

WARNING Modern wastewater treatment systems have electrical components and many of these are immersed. Any wastewater system with an electricity supply is a potential hazard. The maintenance options supplied are provided entirely for use at the sole discretion of the maintenance provider(s). Greenacres Waiheke Limited accepts no responsibility in any form whatsoever for maintenance/repair work, accident or damage as a result of work undertaken by any party not in the employ of Greenacres Waiheke Limited.

Greenacres Waiheke Limited

Phone 3727614

P O Box 395, Oneroa
Waiheke Island
Auckland 1840

info@greenacreswaiheke.co.nz
www.greenacreswaiheke.co.nz



Maintenance Tips for Septic tanks with pump chambers and alkathene lines

If the manhole covers are deeply buried then please consider fitting a riser pipe and lid to bring access above ground level and to seal the tank off from stormwater invasion. Not only will this save a lot of work digging things up everytime anyone wants to do any work on the system, it will also preserve the life of your disposal field which has quite enough to do looking after the wastewater from the house without dealing with rainwater too.

On a final note please be sure that the pump chamber is adequately cleaned when the three yearly desludging pump out falls due. This has been an issue in recent months. The pump in your system will not last if required to pump sludgy water, and they are expensive to replace. Be wary of some of these advertised “specials”, make sure that the entire system covered by the quantity removed by the septic tank pump out operator.

Should you not wish to clean your own filters and lines, then ring to ask us about our **maintenance contracts**. Otherwise all the best, and please don't hesitate to call us should you need any assistance. Also, check out our website for these and other useful maintenance tips.

WARNING *Modern wastewater treatment systems have electrical components and many of these are immersed. Any wastewater system with an electricity supply is a potential hazard. The maintenance options supplied are provided entirely for use at the sole discretion of the maintenance provider(s). Greenacres Waiheke Limited accepts no responsibility in any form whatsoever for maintenance/repair work, accident or damage as a result of work undertaken by any party not in the employ of Greenacres Waiheke Limited.*

Greenacres Waiheke Limited

Phone 3727614

*P O Box 395, Oneroa
Waiheke Island
Auckland 1840*

*info@greenacres waiheke.co.nz
www.greenacreswaiheke.co.nz*