



Tank Division

Underground Tank | Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Use certified, experienced installers; follow all local and state codes
- For DIY installs, follow VPC installation guidelines and confirm DIY is allowed in your area
- Use septic tanks only for approved underground septic applications
- Record your tank serial number and installation date
- Install manway risers for ground-level access
- Consider adding an effluent filter to protect the drainfield
- Learn how your system works and educate everyone in the household
- Keep records of inspections, pumping, and maintenance
- Inspect the system every 1-2 years and pump every 3-5 years
- Conserve water and use water-efficient fixtures
- Spread laundry and high-water usage over time
- Fix leaks promptly
- Use household chemicals sparingly
- Direct rainwater away from the tank and drainfield
- Act quickly if you notice slow drains, odors, backups, or unusual sounds

Don'ts

- Use the tank for unauthorized purposes.
- Add liquids over 120°F or exceed recommended flow rates
- Flush anything other than human waste and septic-safe toilet paper
- Flush wipes, plastics, diapers, paper towels, or cigarette butts
- Pour chemicals, paints, oils, or hazardous waste down drains
- Skip inspections or regular maintenance
- Attempt DIY septic repairs - always call a professional
- Ignore warning signs like odors, gurgling, or sewage backups
- Overuse garbage disposals
- Pour fats, oils, or grease down the drain
- Drive or park vehicles over the drainfield
- Plant deep-rooted trees or shrubs near the system
- Connect rainwater drains to the septic systems
- Cover access lids with permanent structures

Questions? Please call VPC's tank specialist at (661) 257-3923 x 1026 or send an email productexpert@vpcglobal.com.

