

## FAYETTE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



## HOLDING TANK DOs AND DON'Ts

**DO** learn the location of your holding tank. Keep a diagram of it handy with your maintenance records for service visits.

**DO** have your holding tank inspected annually and pumped out only by a licensed private sewage pumpers.

**DO** keep your holding tank cover accessible for inspections and pumping. Install risers if necessary.

**DO** keep detailed a record of repairs, pumping, inspections, permits issued and other maintenance activities.

**DON'T** allow anyone to drive or park over any part of the holding tank.

**DON'T** make or allow modifications to your holding tank without obtaining the required Health Department permit.

**DON'T** use your toilet as a trash can or poison your holding tank by pouring harmful chemicals and cleansers down the drain.

**DON'T** flush coffee grinds, dental floss, disposable diapers, kitty litter, sanitary napkins, tampons, cigarette butts, condoms, paper towels, fat, grease, oil, or hazardous chemicals such as: paints, varnishes, thinners, waste oils and pesticides.

Be sure to exercise appropriate caution when inspecting a septic tank. Never allow anyone to inspect a septic tank alone. Toxic gases are produced by the natural treatment processes in septic tanks and they can kill in minutes.

It is important to monitor the liquid level in the tank. If the level gets too high, it may back up in the building. Holding tanks may only be pumped by licensed private sewage pumping contractors. The Fayette County Health Department has a list of licensed pumping contractors in this area.