

Management Plan

How Often to Pump a Septic Tank

Regular pumping of a septic tank will extend the life of your wastewater system and protect your drainfield. The table below provides recommendations for approximately how often you should have your septic tank pumped. For example, a 1,000 gallon septic tank, which is used by two people, should be pumped every 6 years. If there are eight people using a 1,000-gallon septic tank, it should be pumped every year. It is also a good idea to have the tank pumped just before a large gathering of people.

Estimated Minimum Septic Pumping Frequencies in Years

Tank Size Gals.	Number of persons in household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1000	12 yrs.	6 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	2 yrs.	1 yr.	1 yr.
1250	16 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	3 yrs.	3 yrs.	2 yrs.	2 yrs.
1500	19 yrs.	9 yrs.	6 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	3 yrs.	2 yrs.
1750	22 yrs.	11 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	3 yrs.
2000	25 yrs.	12 yrs.	8 yrs.	6 yrs.	4 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.
2250	27 yrs.	14 yrs.	9 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.
2500	32 yrs.	16 yrs.	10 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	5 yrs.	4 yrs.

Adapted from work by Karen Mancl, Ohio State University Extension

_____ agrees to have the
(print applicant name)
 septic tank located at _____
(print address)
 pumped at a minimum of once every _____ years according to the above
 Estimated Minimum Septic Pumping Frequencies in Years table, and will provide receipts to:

Bernalillo County Natural Resource Services
 111 Union Square St. SE, Suite 100
 Albuquerque, NM 87102
 Phone: (505) 314-0375
 Fax: (505) 462-9833

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

This form is incomplete unless the applicant's name is stated, the site address is stated, the minimum pumping frequency is stated, the form is signed and the date of the signature is written.