The companies and individuals listed on www.septiclocator.com are members of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA). NOWRA members have access to up-to-date training and participate in initiatives to improve the quality of their onsite wastewater products, services, and regulations.

People Caring About Water

Visit www.septiclocator.com to find a local company that can:

• Pump your septic tank
• Diagnose problems & repairs
• Provide onsite equipment
• Design and install a new system
• Advise you on proper maintenance

Need help with your septic system?
Help is just a click away!
Your septic system, also known as an onsite wastewater treatment system, relies on microbial action to treat your wastewater. There are a broad range of technologies used for onsite wastewater treatment. These systems range from a conventional septic tank and drain field, to advanced treatment technologies with surface discharge. The following household products and practices may affect the performance of your system.

**Inert Materials:** Plastic, rubber, scouring pads, dental floss, kitty litter, cigarette filters, bandages, hair, mop strings, lint, and rags.

**Paper Products:** Disposable diapers, paper towels, facial tissues, baby wipes, lotioned, scented or quilted toilet tissue, female sanitary products, cotton balls/swabs.

**Food Wastes:** Animal fats & bones, grease, vegetable oil, coffee grounds, citrus & melon rinds, corn cobs, egg shells.

**Household Products:** Excessive use of antimicrobial soaps, automatic toilet disinfection tablets, household cleaners, sanitizers and drain cleaners.

**Medications/Aliments:** Normal use of over-the-counter medications do not affect the performance of onsite systems. Do not flush expired medications into an onsite treatment system. Some medications are known to cause biological disruption.

**Commercial Additives:** There are a wide range of additives that claim to enhance the performance of your system. Some septic tank additives can harm your system.

**Chemicals:** Paint, paint thinner, solvents, volatile substances, automotive fluids, fuels, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, metals, disinfectants, sanitizers, bleach, mop water, floor stripping wastes.

**Laundry Practices:** Clothes washing should be spread out over the course of a week. Concentrating laundry practices into a few hours per week puts an excessive water load on your system. By doing one or two loads per day, you reduce the potential for excessive water and detergent loading. Excessive use of detergents, especially those containing bleach, can affect system performance. Liquid detergents are recommended over powders. Fabric Softener sheets are recommended over liquid softeners. Excessive bleach use should be avoided.

**Clean Water Waste:** Water from air conditioner discharge lines, floor drains, gutters, backwash from water softener regeneration, and sump pumps may affect your treatment process. Discharge this water in accordance with your local regulations.

Refer to the onsite system manufacturer’s recommendations and/or contact your service provider to learn how these products and practices could affect your septic system.