

WATER DEPARTMENT

NEWS AND UPDATES



Drinking Water Week | May 6-12, 2018



Support Drinking Water Week with easy ways to help Protect the Source.

NUTRIENT POLLUTION – WASTEWATER

'Our sewer and septic systems are responsible for treating large quantities of waste, and these systems do not always operate properly or remove enough nitrogen and phosphorus before discharging into waterways.' www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/sources-and-solutions

WHAT YOU CAN DO – SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Inspect your septic system annually.

Pump out your septic system regularly. (Pumping out every two to five years is recommended for a three-bedroom house with a 1,000-gallon tank; smaller tanks should be pumped more often).

Do not use septic system additives. There is no scientific evidence that additives aid or accelerate decomposition in septic tanks; some additives can be detrimental to the septic system or contaminate ground water.

Do not divert storm drains or basement pumps into septic systems.

Avoid or reduce the use of your garbage disposal. Garbage disposals contribute unnecessary solids to your septic system and can also increase the frequency your tank needs to be pumped.

Don't use toilets as trash cans. Excess solids can clog your drainfield and necessitate more frequent pumping.

When installing a septic system, maintain a safe distance from drinking water sources to avoid potential contamination. Avoid areas with high water tables and shallow impermeable layers.

Plant only grass in the drain field and avoid planting trees, bushes, or other plants with extensive root systems that could damage the system's tank or pipes.

Visit EPA's Septic Smart website to learn more about how your septic system works and simple tips on how to properly maintain it.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US: water@surfsideonline.org

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE: surfsideonline.org/surfside-water-department/