**Simple Steps, Long-lasting Results**  
To avoid flushing thousands of dollars in repairs down the drain, keep your septic system in good working condition. This type of safe treatment of sewage prevents the spread of infection and disease and protects your water. Also, when a septic tank is working properly, it naturally removes most of the pollutants that can make you sick. If you follow these steps, your septic system will function to protect your health and your investment.

**Remember the 3 Ps**  

**PUMP**  
- Pump your tank at least every 3 to 5 years to help ensure it continues to work properly.  
- Waste and kitchen garbage disposal material can build up over time, so pumping your system is an important step.  
- Have your septic system inspected every 3 years by a licensed sewage disposal company to check for any problems.  
- Fix leaking toilets and dripping faucets as soon as possible.

**PROTECT**  
- Do not drive over or park vehicles on your septic tank or drainfield.  
- Do not pour household products, such as cleaners, medicine, auto fluids, paint and lawn care products down the drain. These items can pollute surface and ground water, which supplies your drinking water. It may also end up in your local rivers, lakes and coastal waters.  
- Fix leaking toilets and dripping faucets as soon as possible.

**PREVENT**  
- Use your toilet to flush human waste only. Anything other than human waste can clog and possibly damage your septic system.  
- Do not pour household products, such as cleansers, medicine, auto fluids, paint and lawn care products down the drain. These items can pollute surface and ground water, which supplies your drinking water. It may also end up in your local rivers, lakes and coastal waters.  
- Compost your kitchen scraps rather than use your garbage disposal, to help your septic system last longer.