

ISLAND COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

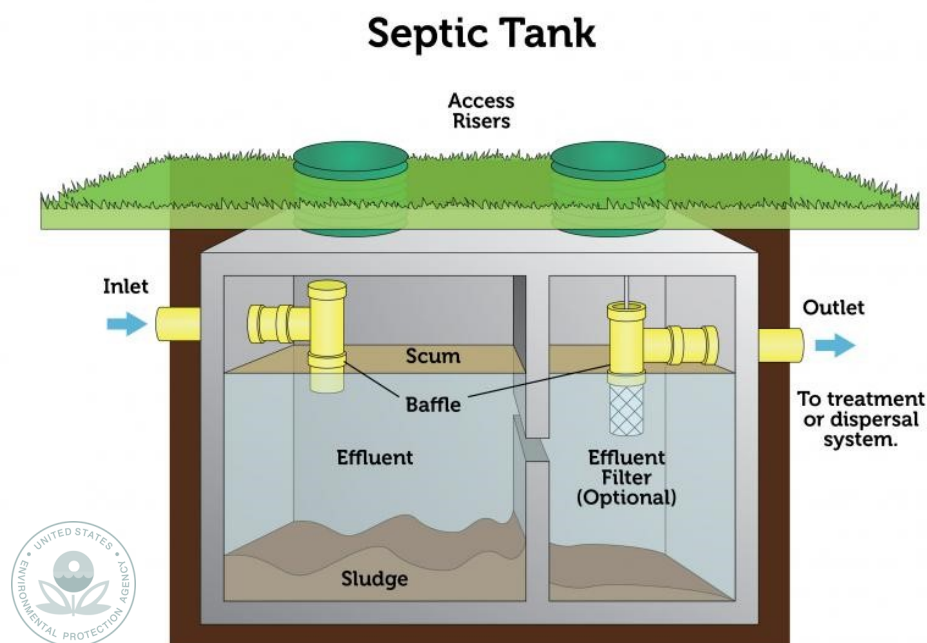


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Helpful Tips

- ◇ Maintaining your access risers ensures a water-tight tank & allows septic professionals to fully inspect your tank.
- ◇ A filter on your outlet baffle can help prevent clogging in your system down the line.
- ◇ Professionals recommend you have your tank pumped every 3 — 5 years.
- ◇ Use your water efficiently to prevent overloading your system.

Septic Tanks



A buried, water-tight tank often made of concrete, septic tanks are designed to receive and partially treat domestic wastewater. When working properly, the wastewater will enter the tank through the inlet baffle and separate into 3 zones. Heavy solids will settle to the bottom in the sludge zone. Lighter solids and greases will float to the top in the scum zone. The wastewater left in between will pass into the second compartment where it's discharged to the drainfield through the outlet baffle for further treatment.