



## Suggested Operating Tips

### Home Sewage Treatment System Maintenance Program

- What is the Home Sewage Treatment System Maintenance Program?  
*A public education and awareness campaign regarding the importance of proper operation and maintenance of individual home sewage treatment systems.*
- Who is doing this?  
*Louisiana Rural Water Association, through funding by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.*
- Why are we doing this?  
*To provide information on the proper operation and maintenance of your home sewage treatment system, the importance of routine inspections and how to identify repairs needed on your individual system.*
- What happens in an inspection?  
*A visual inspection of the system will take place and recommendations regarding proper sewer system operating practices will be offered.*
- What is the cost of an inspection?  
*The inspection is absolutely **FREE!***
- How can I schedule my **FREE** inspection?  
*Contact LRWA at 1-800-256-2591 and mention this brochure.*
- How long will the inspection take?  
*The average inspection will take approximately 15-20 minutes.*
- Will I get penalized for having a non-functional system?  
*No penalties will be imposed. We are here to help! But we will recommend a corrective plan of action for your particular system.*

***For more information contact LRWA at 1-800-256-2591 or Visit the websites and links listed on the backside of this flyer, which also contains suggested operating tips.***

- Have routine inspections conducted (annually)
- Pump out system at 4 to 5 year intervals
- Make sure aerator is plugged in and operating
- Clean/change filters on aerators at regular intervals
- Do not flush/discard garbage into sewer system (baby wipes, diapers, cigarette butts, feminine products, condoms, cotton swabs, band aids, etc)
- Do not dispose of harsh chemicals, old medications, grease and other harmful liquids into your sewer system
- Ensure all access lids and caps fit properly so as not to allow rain water to enter sewer system
- Check discharge periodically to prevent obstructions
- If repairs are needed, make sure they are done by a professional

## Suggested Websites

- <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/>  
*(Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality website)*
- <https://www.epa.gov/septic>  
*(Environmental Protection Agency SepticSmart website)*
- <https://lrwa.org/>  
*(Louisiana Rural Water Association website)*
- <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/page/627>  
*(Louisiana Department of Health website)*
- <https://youtu.be/bQCZFjiO6w4>  
*(Youtube video titled Home Sewage Treatment Presentation)*
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1v3JMnlevuo>  
*(Youtube video by DEQ titled Tips To Maintaining Home Sewage Treatment Systems)*

**Properly operating systems are vital to improving and/or maintaining water quality in our rivers, bayous, streams and lakes for both recreational and drinking water purposes.**

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