

# Management Plan

## How Often to Pump a Septic Tank

Regular pumping of a septic tank will extend the life of your wastewater system and protect your drainfield. The table below provides recommendations for approximately how often you should have your septic tank pumped. For example, a 1,000 gallon septic tank, which is used by two people, should be pumped every 6 years. If there are eight people using a 1,000-gallon septic tank, it should be pumped every year. It is also a good idea to have the tank pumped just before a large gathering of people.

### Estimated Minimum Septic Pumping Frequencies in Years

Tank Size Gals.	Number of persons in household						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1000	12 yrs.	6 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	2 yrs.	1 yr.	1 yr.
1250	16 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	3 yrs.	3 yrs.	2 yrs.	2 yrs.
1500	19 yrs.	9 yrs.	6 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	3 yrs.	2 yrs.
1750	22 yrs.	11 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.	3 yrs.
2000	25 yrs.	12 yrs.	8 yrs.	6 yrs.	4 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.
2250	27 yrs.	14 yrs.	9 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	4 yrs.	3 yrs.
2500	32 yrs.	16 yrs.	10 yrs.	7 yrs.	5 yrs.	5 yrs.	4 yrs.

Adapted from work by Karen Mancl, Ohio State University Extension

\_\_\_\_\_ agrees to have the  
(print applicant name)  
 septic tank located at \_\_\_\_\_  
(print address)  
 pumped at a minimum of once every \_\_\_\_\_ years according to the above  
 Estimated Minimum Septic Pumping Frequencies in Years table, and will provide receipts to:

Bernalillo County Environmental Health  
 111 Union Square St. SE  
 Albuquerque, NM 87102  
 Phone: (505) 314-0310  
 Fax: (505) 314-0470

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

This form is incomplete unless the applicant's name is stated, the site address is stated, the minimum pumping frequency is stated, the form is signed and the date of the signature is written.