How Your System Works

A septic tank has just two basic working parts: a septic tank and a soil dispersal field.

A Septic Tank protects the dispersal field from solids and scum that cause system failure. In the tank, heavy solids settle to the bottom and light materials float to the surface. They are retained and partly degraded to sludge by anaerobic bacteria.

A Soil Dispersal Field receives clear effluent from the tank. Filtration and microbes treat the effluent as it enters and percolates through the soil. Excess treated water finally reaches groundwater.

A Lagoon receives and treats wastewater, either raw sewage or septic tank effluent. The water is dispersed to evaporation and seepage. Sludge accumulates in the lagoon. Lagoons must be fenced to protect children and animals.

A Lagoon does not require a septic tank. A lagoon has only one part, but requires annual maintenance.

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Wastewater is all wastewater from homes, businesses, etc. State standards and local codes prohibit surface discharge of any wastewater.