



PT Water and Environment Ireland

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Operating instructions

Septic Tank:

In general, the tank must be pumped out:

- When sludge has reached 50% of the tank's capacity by volume.
- At least once every year for all wastewater and septic tanks.
- Tanks must be pumped out at a steady pace, while simultaneously adding clear water. The filter must be cleaned and rinsed.

Always comply with the advice of the local authorities.

General recommendations


- Do not pump out septic tanks during periods of heavy rainfall.
- Septic tanks must be pumped out at a steady rate with clear water being added at the same time (fill the tank with water after finish emptying).
- These operations must be carried out by a certified, qualified professional who is trained and equipped for this type of work. Never smoke when removing caps during procedures (inspection, maintenance) (presence of H₂S).
- Wear waterproof gloves to avoid skin contact during handling.
- Operations must be done during off-peak periods of the day to avoid any influx of effluent to the tank.
- Have a container and garden hose or pressure-washer on hand.
- After the procedure (inspection, maintenance), check to ensure correct function by flushing several tanks of water to the tank.


Integrated filter (effluent filter*):

- During normal use, the integrated filter collects particles from the septic tank and can gradually become clogged. It must be cleaned regularly. We recommend yearly inspection of the filter and cleaning as necessary.
- Cleaning must be performed using a water jet, with the filter placed above the manhole so that waste falls back into the septic tank. The filter must be cleaned every time the septic tank is emptied. Maintenance frequency may vary depending on how the filter is used.
- If grease is stuck to the filter, place the filter in a waterproof container and wash with hot water (liquefaction).

(* Purflo PF17 or Polylok)

Cleaning the PURFLO PF 17 filter

<p>Step 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the septic tank's manhole. • After unlocking the cover (1/4 turn), pull back the cover, signal that you are working and secure the perimeter. • Make sure no water is flowing into the septic tank when the filter is removed for cleaning. 	
<p>Step 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty the tank partially or completely (if necessary). 	
<p>Step 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the filter completely, holding it upright and using the handle, until disconnected from the secured filter connector. • Make sure that the van guillotine on the secured filter connector seals the tank outlet. • Pull the plug out of the handle, position the garden hose fitting* onto the filter hookup, connect the hose, hold the filter above the manhole, then turn on the water. • With the water running at its highest volume, move the filter up and down repeatedly (vertically) to rinse the inside of the filter, so that waste falls back into the tank (*male 20 x 27 fitting). 	

<p>Step 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn off the water, remove the hose, put the plug back into position on the handle, put the hose fitting back into its initial casing, put the filter back into its secured filter connector. • Push the filter and secured filter connector downwards until it stops. • The secured filter connector van guillotine must have disengaged from the tank outlet. 	
<p>Step 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put the cover back on and lock it (1/4 turn lock). 	

Troubleshooting

>>> Saturation or clogging, non-liquefaction of material:

Check:

- That only wastewater is entering the tank
- The various levels (grease, water, sludge)
- The date that the tank was last emptied, and how it was done
- For biological and chemical causes (i.e. unusual, excessive or constant disposal of harmful or non-biodegradable products like bleach, antibiotics, drain cleaners, etc.)
- The tank's dimensions (i.e. undersized parts, overload, etc.)

>>>Spill-over of nondegraded matter outside of a tank or filter clog:

Check:

- The size of the device (i.e. device not large enough for regular use)
- The date the tank was last pumped out (i.e. not emptied often enough)
- If the rainwater drainage system is separate (i.e. rainwater is entering the tank)
- How often the filter is cleaned (clean it - if the filter contains filtering material, replace it)

>>>Odours

Check:

- That manhole covers and fittings for the tank inlet are waterproof
- That traps are effective (i.e. inadequate flow, clog)
- The upper section of the vent pipe (i.e. nominal $\varnothing < 100\text{mm}$, output below the roof line)
- That there is sufficient airflow in the tank above the scum (the layer of fat or scum is too thick, etc.)
- The indicators listed above as specific inspections

Based on these checks, the necessary corrective operations are done and operations (frequency of pump out and cleaning) are adapted.



YOU MUST NOT dispose of the following products in your treatment chain:

- Water softener cleaning water
- Oils and fats (motors, deep-frying, etc.)
- Waxes and resins
- Paints and solvents
- Petroleum products (and by-products)
- Any type of pesticide
- Any type of septic tank additive that is non-biodegradable and/or non-biological, that has no enzymatic action
- Any toxic product
- Any object that is not readily biodegradable (e.g., sanitary pads, wipes, tampons, cotton swabs, etc.)

WARNING: Septic tanks are intended to receive domestic wastewater -- NOT water infiltration -- that is free from non-degradable matter and highly concentrated chemicals such as bleach, drain cleaner and antibiotics. All other uses must be examined on a case by case basis.