

# QUESTIONS TO ASK SEPTIC PUMPERS

Our office recommends contacting at least three (3) certified pumpers. A certified pumpers list is located on the Georgia Environmental Health Department website: (<https://dph.georgia.gov/environmental-health>). We suggest locating your septic tank and becoming familiarized with septic system functions before contacting a septic pumper.

	COMPANY #1	COMPANY #2	COMPANY #3
	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT PERSON
	PHONE #	PHONE #	PHONE#
1. What is the cost for pump out?			
a. If it is a two (2) component tank does this include both components?			
2. Does the cost include a dumping fee?			
3. Is there an additional fee for extra hose?			
4. Is there a fee for uncovering tank lids?			
a. If so, do you charge by the foot?			
b. If so, do you charge separate fees for each lid?			
5. Does the fee include inspection of the inlet and outlet Tee's or baffles?			
6. Does the fee include cleaning of filters if one exists?			
7. Is there an additional fee for a tank that has not been maintained (i.e., contains additional sludge)?			
8. Cost of replacement:			
a. Tee or Baffle			
b. Lid			
c. Filter			
9. Cost of jetting line between house and tank			

\*Additives are not recommended by this department. Some additives can be extremely harmful to the septic system.

**If you have any questions, please contact your local Environmental Health Department.**

# HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOUR TANK BE PUMPED?

Below is a chart with recommended pumping frequencies for your tank. The frequencies estimated are based on minimum 24-hour wastewater retention time and 50 percent digestion of the solids entering the tank. More frequent pumping would be needed if garbage disposals were utilized.

Tank Size (gallons)	Household Size (Number of People)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>1000</b>	12.0	5.9	3.7	2.6	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.7
<b>1250</b>	16.0	7.5	4.8	3.4	2.6	2.0	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.0
<b>1500</b>	19.0	9.1	5.9	4.2	3.3	2.6	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.3
<b>1750</b>	22.0	11.0	6.9	5.0	3.9	3.1	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.6
<b>2000</b>	25.0	12.0	8.0	5.9	4.5	3.7	3.1	2.6	2.2	2.0
<b>2250</b>	29.0	14.0	9.1	6.7	5.2	4.2	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.3
<b>2500</b>	32.0	16.0	10.0	7.5	5.9	4.8	4.0	4.0	3.0	2.6

Adapted from the Georgia Department of Public Health Manual for On-Site Sewage Management Systems



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