



Article published on April 26th 2012 | [Home Improvement](#)

Septic tanks and cesspools do come with specific dangers and risks that could potentially be dangerous. Knowing what could go wrong and how to undertake preventive measures is of uttermost importance for efficient and safe usage.

The septic tank is used to dispose of sanitary and household waste. The system is usually connected to the city's sewer network. Although the system is quite simple and straightforward, the chance of accidents occurring exists.

What are some of the most common septic tank accidents and how do you prevent them from happening? Keep on reading to discover more.

Ground Collapses

Poor maintenance of a septic tank or the long term usage of one can lead to the unexpected collapse of land and the formation of a sink hole. Such problems occur very often when the septic tanks are no longer used, even forgotten under the ground.

If you are a new homeowner, it may be a smart idea to find out whether a septic tank is located on your new property. People who own such plots should contact sewage contractors. These professionals will either carry out the proper maintenance of the septic tank or get it filled with sand in order to prevent the formation of a sink hole.

Waste Leakage

Each septic tank has a waste holding capacity. If the amount of waste starts exceeding the tank's capacity, a leakage may occur. In such instances, solid and liquid waste begins leaking into the ground that surrounds the septic tank.

The unbearable stench is just one of the hazards connected to this kind of leakage. It may even be toxic, not to mention the effects on the soil. Pumping the tank on a regular basis is a very important preventive step. Keep in mind that waste leakage can be life threatening, especially if tap water gets contaminated.

Rainfall and Septic Tank Overflows

Many people fail understanding that the proper functioning of septic tanks can be hindered by intense rainfall. In fact, precipitation can cause serious and dangerous accidents that will be very expensive to deal with.

A heavy rainfall will increase the intensity of underground water flows. This water may eventually enter the septic tank system. Although the system is self-sustainable and relatively safe, it may be affected by intense rainfall. In such instances, the septic tank may start overflowing.

Cracks in the piping will also enable the occurrence of such accidents. The tank will fail in such instances and you will have to pay a lot for repairs. The only way to prevent septic tank accidents connected to rainfall is to routinely check the condition of the systems and the pipes.

These are just several of the most common accidents that can affect the functioning of a septic tank.

Such problems are unpleasant but they can also be dangerous. Septic tanks contain nitrates, toxic wastes and some hazardous gases. The only way to make sure that the septic tank is functioning properly and safely is the regular conduction of system inspections. Worn out parts should be replaced for optimal functioning.

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Article Keywords:

septic tank, septic tanks

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