

## TIPS AND ADVICE

To maximize the useful life of your septic system:

- do not dispose of cooking fat in the kitchen sink;
- throw solid waste (sanitary napkins, cigarette filters, etc.) in the garbage;
- do not discharge your water softener backwash to your septic tank;
- do not pour chemicals such as bleach, borax, or paint down the drain;
- do not use a food waste disposal unit.

All of these products or substances slow or kill the bacterial activity that is essential to organic-matter degradation in the septic tank.

## SERVICING NOTICE

A few days prior to servicing, property owners will receive written notice from the MRC informing them of their next septic tank servicing period.

During the servicing period stated on the written notice:

- the manhole covers on your septic tank must be visible and ready to be removed without difficulty by the contractor;
- there must be an unobstructed 6-inch space around the manhole.



**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** It is the responsibility of the property owner to take the necessary measures to ensure that the unobstructed space around the manholes presents no risk for passers-by.

As with a fuel oil or propane delivery, the property owner's presence on site is not required for the actual servicing. Your MRC supervises everything.

Once the tank has been pumped, a notice will be left for the property owner, attesting to the completion of the work.



### MRC address:

MRC de La Haute-Yamaska  
142 Dufferin Street, Suite 100  
Granby, QC J2G 4X1

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**French version available  
upon request at (450)378-9975**

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# ROUTINE SEPTIC TANK PUMPING SERVICE



TOGETHER  
FOR AND  
ECOLOGICAL HAUTE-YAMASKA



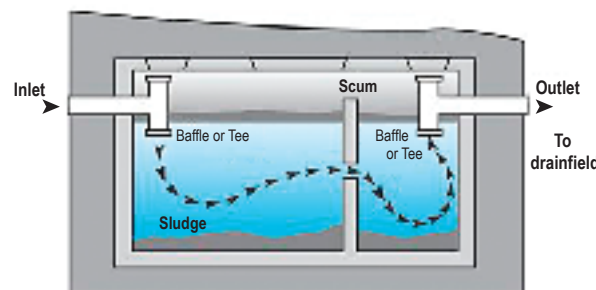
HAUTE-YAMASKA  
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## HOW DOES A SEPTIC TANK WORK ?

Typically, a septic system consists of a septic tank and a drainfield. The septic tank is designed to allow wastewater to settle, separating into scum and sludge. The organic matter, for its part, is composted by the bacteria in the tank. Only the liquid effluent should flow into the drainfield to be filtered naturally through the soil.

Diagram of a Septic Tank



## WHY SERVICE YOUR SEPTIC TANK EVERY TWO YEARS ?

If the scum and sludge is not pumped out regularly, it can escape the tank and obstruct the drainfield. This disrupts the wastewater treatment and reduces the useful life of the drainfield.

Contamination of surface and groundwater by an inadequately maintained septic tank is a source of pollution for the aquatic environment and a threat to everyone's health.

**So don't wait until your septic tank is full to have it pumped.**

## MRC-WIDE SERVICE

The new service applies to any residential property with a septic tank, including cottages, camps, mobile homes and other dwellings on your MRC's territory. The municipalities covered are:

- Bromont
- Granby (Township)
- Granby (City)
- Roxton Pond
- Saint-Alphonse
- Sainte-Cécile-de-Milton
- Shefford
- St-Joachim-de-Shefford
- Warden
- Waterloo

## HOW THE SERVICE OPERATES

To limit truck traffic, the service will be rendered door to door, according to a pre-established route. The service will operate from **May to mid-November, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Each municipality has been divided into two distinct service areas: one will be served in 2006, and the other, in 2007. The service areas can be viewed on your MRC's website at [www.haute-yamaska.ca](http://www.haute-yamaska.ca)

## WHY A NEW SERVICE ?

In its concern to protect public health and the environment adequately, and thus maintain an appreciable quality of life on its territory, your MRC has decided to set up a residential septic tank pumping service throughout its territory.

By setting up this service, the MRC is making sure that:

- septic tanks are pumped every two years as the provincial regulations require;
- sources of environmental nuisance, pollution, and contamination of waterways, ditches and groundwater are reduced;
- sludge is disposed of on an approved site and not discharged into the environment.

**Currently, the sludge, once dehydrated, is for the most part sent to a landfill. By 2008, your MRC has set itself the objective of diverting the sludge from the landfill, either by composting, spreading on agricultural lands, or some other means that is respectful of the environment.**

