

# Septic tank filter cleaning procedures

Septic tank filters are installed in the baffle on the outlet side of the system. This is the side that flows to the main. A filter is set in place that blocks suspended solids from flowing out of the tank. However, without proper maintenance of the system and the filter, there can still be problems that the owner will have to deal with. One of the best ways to avoid septic issues is to regularly maintain the system and clean the filter.

Difficulty: Moderately Easy

Instructions

Things You will need:

- \* Water hose with good pressure
- \* Gloves
- \*Phillips Screwdriver

## Step 1

Remove the access lid to the outlet side of the septic tank. This usually requires a screwdriver since, for safety reasons, the lid is normally screwed down to keep children from opening it.

## Step 2

Wearing gloves, pull the filter up by the handle. You should be able to see the handle sticking up out of the top of the baffle. The baffle is a pipe shaped like a T lying on its side.

## Step 3

Hold the filter away from you and anyone else and use a hose to spray it. Wash the filter until you see no more waste on it. Try not to spray near or toward people to prevent waste from landing on them.

## Step 4

Once the filter is clean, insert it back into the baffle and replace the lid. Don't forget to reattach the screws.

Tips: When removing the lid from the tank, make sure that all the gases have dissipated before you attempt to clean the filter. Try to clean the filter while it is suspended in the risers so as not to get any residual contamination on the ground. Consult a professional before attempting to do this yourself!