

# **DOS AND DON'TS FOR THE BROOKS COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT**

## **DO's**

**DO call (night or day) 503-588-5304 whenever the alarm comes on . . .** it sounds like a smoke alarm. The audible alarm can be silenced by pushing the illuminated light located directly above the "PUSH TO SILENCE" label on the front of the electrical control panel. With normal use the tank has a reserve storage capacity good for 24-48 hours.

**DO** familiarize yourself with the location of the electrical control panel and note the number on the panel. Refer to this number when reporting a malfunction in the system to the district office so that maintenance personnel can identify exactly which unit has the problem.

**DO** be aware that district maintenance personnel will service and maintain all equipment past the clean out at the house. Maintenance will be done during normal working hours, except in emergencies.

**DO** call 503-588-5084 should you have any questions concerning billing on your account. Your monthly sewer charge shall be payable in advance, and is due by the 15th of each month. Any assessment on the installation of the system will be billed.

**DO** realize that all legal matters, monthly sewer charges and assessment payments are the obligation and responsibility of the property owner of record. PLEASE CALL 503-588-5084 WITH INFORMATION OF ANY CHANGE IN PROPERTY OWNERSHIP AND/OR TENANTS. Copy of owner/tenant form enclosed.

**DO** practice water conservation. By reducing the amount of water going into our system you can extend the life of the system and reduce the power consumption.

**DO** minimize use of garbage disposal systems because they increase the amount of solids entering the septic tank and the frequency of required septage pumping.

## **DON'T's:**

**DON'T** construct a new drain field, cesspool or privy; a better way has come to our community. Hook-up to the new sewer system all gray water, such as washing machines, shower stalls, etc. Prior to hook-up, consult with the District Engineer at 503-588-5084.

**DON'T** start digging and find an underground utility with your back hoe. Before you dig, telephone the "One Call" number, 1-800-332-2344 and utilities which have underground facilities in the area will come to surface mark their lines.

**DON'T** connect eave troughs or storm drains or allow other surface water to get into the new pressure sewer. This additional water will increase pumping costs, deplete the available capacity of the collection system and add needlessly to the daily volume of water the treatment facility has to process. It is also against the law.

**DON'T** flush undesirable substances into the new sewer. Flushing flammable and toxic products is dangerous and illegal, while other materials such as paper towels, rags, newspaper, cigarettes, coffee grounds, egg shells, sanitary napkins, large amounts of hair and cooking grease are a maintenance nuisance and will also increase the frequency of pumping septage from the tank.

**DON'T** use special additives that claim they will enhance the performance of your tank. Additives **do not** improve the performance of the septic tank and can cause major damage to other areas in the collection system. The natural bacteria that form in your system are sufficient.

**DON'T** try to hook-up to a pressure main. The sewer mainlines are under high pressure.

**DON'T** drive over the septic tank or riser, as damage can result. If your tank is in an area subject to possible traffic, consider putting up an attractive barricade or row of shrubs to discourage traffic unless the tank has been equipped with a special traffic lid. Depending on the circumstances, damage of this nature may be chargeable to the property owner of record.

**DON'T** vandalize or tolerate vandalism of our new sewer system. Repairs necessitated by abuse or deliberate misuse will be charged to the property owner. Too many problems can lead to rate increases for us all.

**DON'T** open or enter your tank. Any work on the tank should be done from the outside by district personnel. Gases that can be generated in the tank and/or the lack of oxygen can be fatal.