

## SEPTICSMART WORKSHOPS

### Gabriola Agi Hall

465 South Road  
Thursday, April 5, 2018  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

### Lantzville Legion

7727 Lantzville Road  
Thursday, April 12, 2018  
6 pm – 8 pm

### Nanoose Place

2925 Northwest Bay Road  
Thursday, April 26, 2018  
6 pm – 8 pm

### Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

747 Jones Street  
Wednesday, May 2, 2018  
6 pm – 8 pm

Visit [rdn.bc.ca](http://rdn.bc.ca) or  
call 250-248-3252  
or 1-888-828-2069  
to register

## ATTEND A FREE WORKSHOP

LEARN HOW TO PROLONG THE LIFE OF YOUR  
SYSTEM AND SAVE MONEY. QUALIFY FOR A  
BONUS OF UP TO \$100 TO TOP UP YOUR SEPTIC  
MAINTENANCE REBATE

# BONUS!

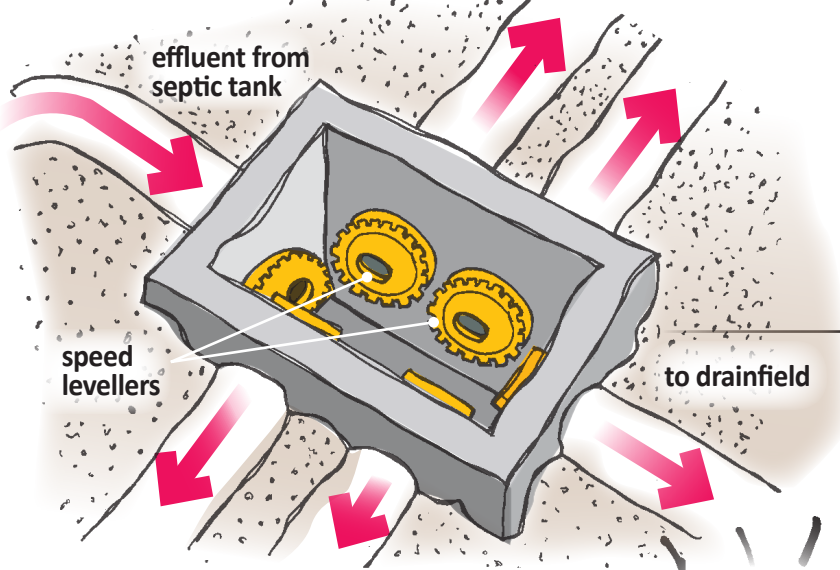
IN THIS  
ISSUE

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No Drainers • Locate Your Septic System • Septic Maintenance Rebates

## DISTRIBUTION BOX

# the heart of your gravity-fed system

a small part with a big impact



In a gravity-fed system (as opposed to a pressurized system), a distribution box should **evenly distribute** effluent from the septic tank to each pipe in the drainfield. **Even distribution maximizes the life of your drainfield!**

A well maintained distribution box is:

**Level** – to ensure equal flow distribution to each line in the drainfield

**Watertight** – in good repair with a water tight lid

**Accessible** – to allow for regular inspection and maintenance

**Equipped with speed levelers** – these small plastic caps help regulate flow to each line

**Inspected regularly** – to ensure that the box is level and effluent is being equally distributed.

*If you think your distribution box needs repair or replacement, contact your **Authorized Person**.*

Seasonal freezing and thawing may cause a distribution box to tilt.

## GET TO KNOW YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

A BASIC SYSTEM IS MADE UP OF THESE MAIN COMPONENTS:

**1 SEPTIC TANK** – holds wastewater for a time to allow solids to settle to the bottom (sludge) and fats to float to the top (scum).

The clear liquid in the middle (effluent) is sent to the drainfield. The tank separates liquids from the sludge or scum that might clog the drainfield, but by itself, doesn't provide a high level of treatment.

**2 DISTRIBUTION BOX** – distributes effluent evenly to the drainfield pipes. A tilted or damaged distribution box could lead to uneven loading of the pipes in the drainfield. Over time, this could cause your drainfield to fail, leading to costly repairs.

**3 DRAINFIELD** – Small holes in the pipes allow effluent to seep into the soil. In order for the drainfield to work effectively over the long term, each pipe must receive an equal flow of effluent.

**4 SOIL** – Naturally-occurring bacteria in the soil filter and treat the effluent. Most of the treatment “work” of a septic system happens in the soil. Grass draws moisture away, so the soil can continue to accept and treat effluent.

NEW IN 2018

The RDN is offering a rebate for distribution box installation or replacement.

*Turn the page for more information >*

let's make this a no brainer

These things don't belong in your septic system!

Visit [rdn.bc.ca/curbside](http://rdn.bc.ca/curbside) to learn more about where these items should go.

PUT IN GARBAGE



# NO DRAINERS



# LOCATE YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM



Mapping out and marking the location of your system's components will help you to protect your system and monitor its performance. These resources may help you locate your system:

- 1) Contact your local Island Health office to see if an as-built diagram of your system is on file.

**Nanaimo Office:**

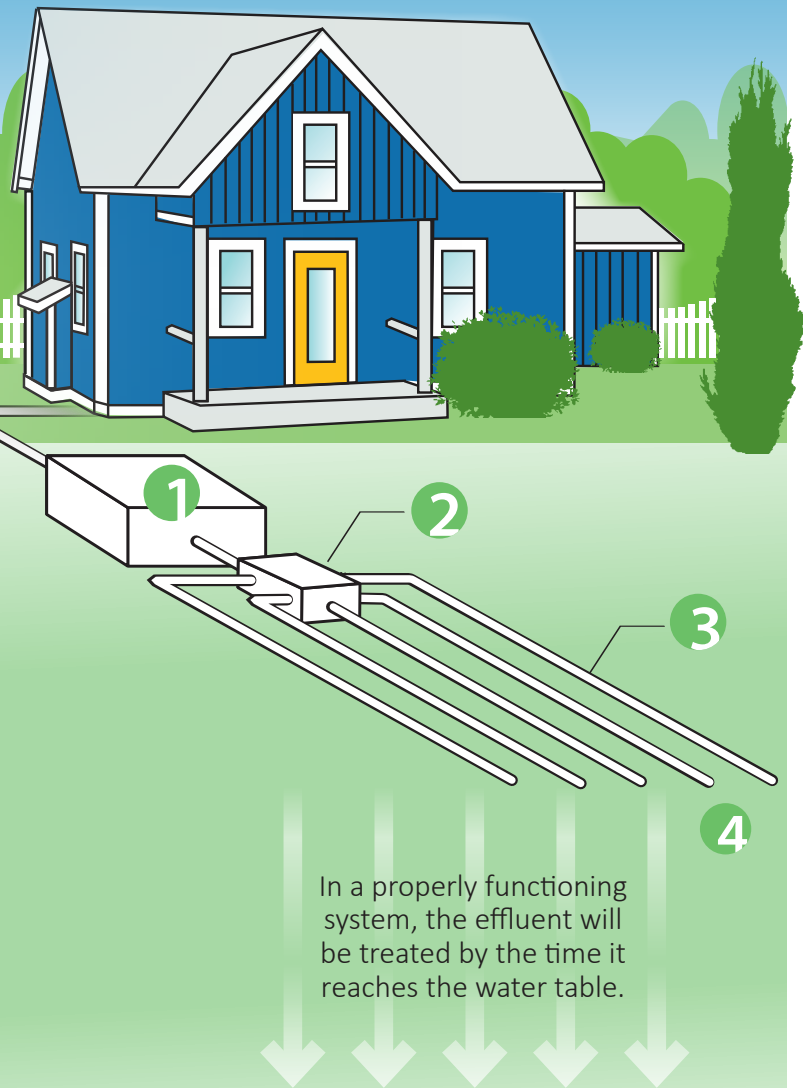
3rd Floor, 6475 Metral Dr. 250-755-6215

**Parksville Office:**

489 Alberni Hwy. 250-947-8222

- 2) Copies of Island Health's "Authorizations to Operate" for some properties may be stored at the RDN.

*Contact Building and Bylaw Services at 250-390-6530 for more information. Note, a minimum file search fee of \$40 is charged and results are not guaranteed.*



FLUSH ONLY PEE, POO AND TOILET PAPER. WIPES WILL CLOG YOUR PIPES.

**AN AUTHORIZED PERSON WILL PERFORM MAINTENANCE OR REPAIRS ON YOUR SYSTEM**

Under the provincial Sewerage System Regulation only an Authorized Person may install or repair a septic system. An Authorized Person is a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) registered through the Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC (ASTTBC) or a Professional Engineer or Geoscientist registered through the Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (EGBC).

**To find a ROWP in your area contact ASTTBC:**

Phone: 604-585-2788 ext. 238

<http://owrp.asttbc.org>

**To find a Professional in your area contact EGBC:**

Phone: 1-888-430-8035

<https://www.egbc.ca/Member-Directories/Professionals-for-Sewerage-System-Regulation>

**PUT IN GREEN BIN**

**Pharmacy**

**Depot**

**FIND A TAKE-BACK LOCATION**



# SEPTIC MAINTENANCE REBATES

Proper septic system maintenance includes regular examination of each component from the tank to the field to determine that the system is structurally sound, functioning, and that all mechanical and electrical parts are in good working order. Components can then be cleaned and repaired as necessary.

In 2018, the RDN is offering rebates in four categories to help you maintain your septic system.

- 1 Up to \$200 for installing or replacing a Distribution Box \*
- 2 Up to \$300 for installing Risers \*
- 3 Up to \$100 for installing an Effluent Filter \*
- 4 \$600 flat rate towards the replacement of a malfunctioning system (cannot be combined with Category 1, 2 or 3)\*

\* The RDN will rebate 75% of eligible expenses to a maximum amount for categories 1-3. Flat rate for category 4.

Rebate funds are limited. Homeowners may request pre-approval and reserve funds for eligible maintenance for up to 90 days.

**All work must be performed by an Authorized Person.** Eligible work must be performed on existing systems between January 1 and December 14, 2018. *New construction is not eligible.*

A complete list of eligibility and requirements is available at [www.SepticSmart.ca](http://www.SepticSmart.ca) or by contacting RDN Wastewater Services.

Visit [RDNrebates.ca](http://RDNrebates.ca) to see other rebates available from the RDN



BONUS REBATE AVAILABLE

SepticSmart workshop participants qualify for up to \$100 extra towards an eligible claim!

**BONUS!**

## 1 Distribution Box

A properly functioning distribution box will maximize the effective lifespan of the drainfield by distributing effluent evenly to each line and preventing any one line from overload.

**NEW**

2 **Risers** provide surface access to buried components. Risers make future pumping, inspection, and maintenance much easier. If you have risers, you have little to no digging to do hereafter.

3 **An Effluent Filter** can prolong the life of your system by keeping solids out of the drainfield.

4 **Replace a Malfunctioning System** Most septic systems last 25-30 years. Eventually all systems need to be replaced.

See front page or visit [www.SepticSmart.ca](http://www.SepticSmart.ca) for 2018 workshops