Southland Organics

Case Study: SEPTIC TANK SYSTEM RESTORATION

Septic systems are typically unable to degrade the bio-solids that accumulate in the tank and leach fields. While indigenous microorganisms are present in most septic systems, they are not capable of degrading the waste at a sufficient rate to keep the system in proper operating order. The end result can be costly pump outs. The worst case is that the system has to be removed and replaced at an extremely high cost.

A field evaluation was performed on a failing 900-gallon septic system with 429 square feet of leach field. The system had completely malfunctioned. There was no drain evacuation and water had penetrated through the soil above the drain field and was standing there. The accumulation of bio-mass in the bottom of the leach field had created a shield (much like a layer of petroleum jelly over sand) that prevented the wastewater from leaching into the ground as designed.

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The repair/replacement cost the company quoted the owner was $6,350. Along with the expense, there would also be a period of six days that the owner's property would be in a state of total disruption.

SOLUTION

First, the septic tank was pumped out. Water began to back flow into the tank from the leach field. This was another indication that the leach fields were definitely not working. The decision was made to pump the system because there was total blockage in all drains and lines, and there was no other method to get adequate flow to carry the product throughout the system.

Port, a 100% organic and environmentally safe solution, was added at an application rate of 1 gallon per 100 gallons of tank capacity directly into the septic tank (9 gallons for the 900 gallon tank). At the junction box, 1 gallon of OP Port was added for each 100 square feet of leach field in the system (4.3 gallons for the 429 square feet in the leach field). Note: If the leach system is a chamber type system, the product must be added into each chamber based on the square footage of each line.

Within three days after treatment, the drains from the building began to flow more freely. Ten days after treatment, drain evacuation was performing as good as new. Sixty days later the bio mass accumulated in the bottom of the leach fields was cleared and the wastewater began leaching as designed.

CONCLUSION

With slightly over 13 gallons of Port the malfunctioning system was restored to normal operation. The owner saved $6,350 in repair/replacement expenses, and was not exposed to the unpleasant event of having his property in complete disruption of nearly a week. This savings was accomplished without the use of harsh chemicals that can harm the environment.