

## CoNgRaTuLaTiOnS!

You have been connected to the Coburg wastewater system. **The City will now maintain your tank, pump, and pump control/alarm.** This includes inspection, pumping, and repairs. You no longer have that responsibility.

The public easement on your property provides the City access for wastewater system maintenance.



### How Does My System Work?

The elements of the Coburg wastewater system on your property consist of a septic tank and pump, the pump control and alarm panel, and the connection to the collection system (pipe) in the street. STEP stands for Septic Tank Effluent Pumping. This means a pump has been installed/replaced in your septic tank. It sends the liquid waste to the wastewater treatment plant. There is an electric switch in a box on or near your house, connected to your house's electrical panel. This switch powers the pump in the STEP tank and an alarm. The alarm monitors the operation. STEP systems do a terrific job of decomposing household waste and recycling precious water resources. They use little energy and frequently outperform standard municipal sewage treatment plants.

### How to Care for Wastewater System (similar to a septic system)

#### Do Not

##### Flush or Drain

- Fats, grease
- Toxic chemicals/paints/acid
- Any caustic substances
- Sanitary products, diapers/wipes
- More than minimal garbage disposal use
- Septic additives

##### Drive Over Septic Tank

It is not built to withstand the weight and may collapse.

##### Build Over or within Five Feet (5) of Tank (not just the lid)

This includes all structures e.g. decks and paving. Pavers, planters, and large rocks are strongly discouraged. The City needs to access the tank to inspect, pump, and repair. Inspections are scheduled every two years. Obstructions to access will need to be removed at your expense.

## **Disconnect Electrical Connections**

This will cause the pump to stop operating and the tank to back up.

## **Open Tank**

The gasses in a septic tank/oxygen depletion can be fatal.

## **Make an Unpermitted Connection**

For example, RV waste, hot-tub/pool drainage clogs equipment. Rain gutter or storm water connections are prohibited.

## **Do**

### **Call Coburg Public Works at **541-683-0081** (24 hours/day)**

If your pump alarm sounds or if you notice septic water/smell around tank.

### **Contact City Hall for a Wastewater Homeowner's Manual**

This includes recommendations for non-chemical cleaning and water conservation. See [www.coburgoregon.org](http://www.coburgoregon.org) under wastewater project to download a copy.

Every member of your household should be familiar with these. With preventive and City maintenance, the onsite part of your wastewater system should function for decades. And you'll save water, energy, and pumpout costs, too. The City of Coburg looks forward to many years of a partnership with you in operating Coburg's new wastewater system. Together we have already taken a significant step in eliminating serious groundwater contamination in Coburg by removing all the failing septic tanks (over 50% of properties). Over the coming years, as the contamination from old drainfields dissipates, Coburg's groundwater will become even healthier and cleaner.

## **Contacts**

System Questions  
Public Works | 541-682-7857

Utility Billing Questions  
Utility Billing | 541-682-7850

**SAVE FOR REFERENCE**