



5 Signs of Septic System Damage You Can't Ignore

Free Homeowner's Guide to Lasting Peace of Mind



Your septic system quietly handles thousands of gallons of wastewater every week... until it fails. A single failure can cost \$20,000+, contaminate your drinking water, and even back sewage into your home.



The good news: catching problems early can save you thousands and protect your family's health.

Here are the **5 biggest red flags** to watch out for



Standing water = septic trouble

1. Pools of Water or Soggy Spots in the Yard

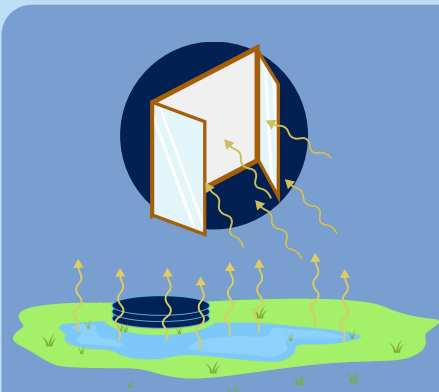


Standing water near your drain field or septic tank usually means wastewater isn't filtering properly. Causes can include:

- Crushed or clogged pipes
- Soil clogged by microplastics and/or other particulates
- An overfilled septic tank



Why it matters: This can lead to raw sewage surfacing on your property, creating health risks and requiring expensive soil or drain field replacement.



Bad smells = warning signs

2. Strong Sewage Odors (Outside or Inside the Home)



A properly functioning system should not smell. If you notice sewage-like odors:

- In the drain field: solids like microplastics, lint, hair, and other particulates may be leaking into the soil
- In your home: wastewater could be backing up through pipes

Why it matters: Sewage odors are more than unpleasant; they are a warning that untreated waste may be entering your home or groundwater.



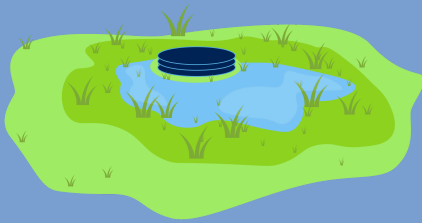
Slow drains
or backups = urgent

3. Sewage Backups or Slow Drains

Slow-moving drains, gurgling toilets, or sewage backing up are urgent warning signs. They can mean:

- Your septic tank is full
- Pipes or the drain field are clogged (with particulates including microplastics, lint, and hair)
- Wastewater has nowhere to go but back into your home

Why it matters: Backups are the clearest sign of system failure and must be fixed immediately to protect your health and property.

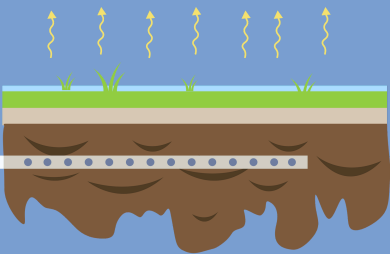


Extra green grass =
leaking wastewater

4. Unusually Green or Lush Grass

A patch of extra-bright green grass over your drain field or septic tank may look nice, but it's a red flag. It usually means untreated wastewater is leaking underground and "fertilizing" your yard.

Why it matters: That same untreated water can carry pathogens and microplastics into your soil and drinking water supply.



Sludge in soil = system failure

5. Foul Smells + Sludge in the Drain Field

Drain fields are designed for liquid only. If dark sludge or foul water is present in the soil, it means solids or septic sludge are clogging the system.

Why it matters: This kind of failure can destroy your drain field, often the most expensive part of your septic system to replace.

Protecting Your Septic System From Damage

• Stop microplastics from entering your septic system:

Laundry is a leading contributor to microplastic buildup in septic tanks and drain fields. The CLEANR Filter captures microplastics before they enter your septic system, helping protect your home, your wallet, and your water. Learn more at www.cleanr.life/cleanrfilter



- Pump your septic tank every 3–5 years.
- Avoid flushing non-septic-safe items (wipes, grease, food scraps).
- Manage water use to prevent overload.



Catch these signs early to avoid costly repairs, protect your family's health, and keep your drinking water clean.

Learn how CLEANR helps protect your septic system at:

www.cleanr.life/home-septic-tank-1



Sources:

- <https://fletcherseweranddrain.com/septic-system-pumping/5-signs-your-septic-system-needs-immediate-attention/>
- <https://advancedsepticsservicesfl.com/signs-drain-field-problems/>
- <https://www.premiertechnaqua.com/en-us/blog/septic-system-failure-signs>