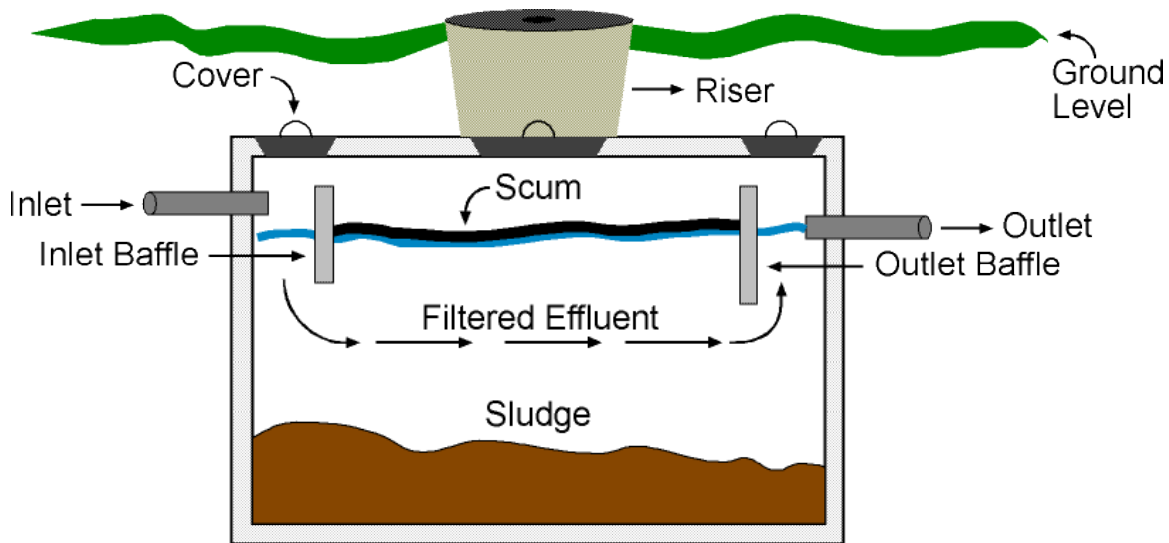


## Outlet Baffle Filter or Effluent Filters

As technology is ever changing, one item has surfaced as a quick, viable layer of protection for our drain fields, or leach fields. This simple technology is called either an outlet baffle filter or effluent filter. There are several different designs, but in principal they all provide the same function, to assure that the effluent water that leaves the septic tank and migrates to the leach field is free of suspended solids.

Although all the components of a septic system are important, it is by far the leach field that is more sensitive, and costly to repair or replace. The septic tank's function is to hold the solids from the house, and detain the liquid; this is done through bacteria within the tank environment. A healthy bacteria population, along with the design of the septic tank (see septic system purpose and need, via the our Homeowners page), detains the flow through the tank, separates the solids from the effluent, allowing filtered effluent to leave the tank, to be disbursed into the drain field, or leach field area. Today's excessive society uses enormous volumes of water (see water usage fact sheet, via the Homeowners page), and large influxes of water influence the detention time of wastewater in the septic tank. Large volumes of water stir up the contents of the septic tank, thus allowing solids to get washed into the leaching bed. The placement of the outlet baffle or effluent filter in the outlet pipe provides a screen for these disturbed solids, allowing only effluent liquid to leave the tank. They provide a great service; protection for your largest backyard investment, your leach field.



Septic Tank

Uninformed homeowners of newer or upgraded septic systems may have these filters as part of their wastewater treatment system, without the knowledge that they are a maintenance item. Like the maintenance of changing the oil in your car to keep your car running carefree, so must you maintain your outlet baffle or effluent filter, for proper function of your entire septic system. It is recommended that the outlet baffle be cleaned of built up debris once every year or two.

Please contact our educated staff at 603-225-9057 or 1-800-287-9057, for more information.