

Wastewater Usage Within the Home

Wastewater flow (gallons/per person/each day)

Source	Range	Average	Percent
Toilet	9-20	14	32
Laundry	8-12	10	22
Bath – total	5-12	10	22
Tub/shower			
Sink			
Kitchen – total	5-13	8	18
Sink			
Dishwasher			
Miscellaneous	0-8	3	6

Conservation of wastewater usage

The most common cause of septic system failure is excessive water entering the system, in large quantities. The number one thing every homeowner can do to conserve waste usage, keeping in mind every time water is used, it goes into the septic tank, water leaves and heads for the leaching field.

Some good water saving ideas:

Conserve Laundry Room

- Wash full loads of clothes
- When washing a small load, use a low water setting
- Do NOT do back to back loads, distribute wash loads throughout the week to reduce loading on the septic system
- Use front-loading washers or water saving features or top-loading washers

Conserve Bathroom

- Install low-flow toilets and showerheads
- Take shorter showers
- Shut off water while brushing teeth and shaving

Conserve Kitchen

- Always wash full loads of dishwasher
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in refrigerator for cold water to drink
- Do not run water while preparing vegetables, washing and rinsing dishes

Conserve water around the home

- Route backwash or recharge water from water softeners out and away from septic tanks and systems. State of NH does allow drywell installation or surface discharge for this purpose.
- Route water from swimming pools, hot tubs tile or surface drains away from septic tank and leachfields