



How Baking Soda Can Help You Avoid Sewer Emergencies

If you have a solids tank as part of the sewer service for your house, you know that there is no getting around tank pumping service and inspections. It's recommended that you have your tank inspected every 1 – 2 years and pumped every 3 to 5 years. But if you end up having issues, you may have to schedule pumping and inspection much more often, which could end up costing you hundreds of extra dollars!

There are many ways to help take care of your system, and one super easy and affordable way is to simply start using baking soda. How does baking soda help you avoid septic system emergencies? By combining baking soda with other all natural ingredients, like vinegar and lemon juice, an environmentally safe and natural cleaner can be used for your toilet, sinks, tub, and drains. Using baking soda instead of harsh chemical cleaners such as bleach will keep all that important bacteria from being killed off. The good bacteria in your tank is necessary because it breaks down all the solid waste in the sewage, letting just the liquid flow into the Town's collection system for treatment at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.



Without the good bacteria you will end up with clogs, back-ups and odors that adversely affect your house's plumbing and the community sewer system as a whole. Using baking soda is very easy. You can mix about a 1/4 cup of baking soda with 1/2 cup of vinegar and 2 tablespoons lemon to make your own natural cleaning agent. The baking soda will fizz up

to loosen the dirt and grime in your tub and drains. It's a great cleaner and your LETTS system will thank you!

Cleaning Chemicals and your LETTS tank:

- *Chlorine bleach and ammonia in small amounts shouldn't be too harmful, but large quantities kill beneficial bacteria.*
- *Drain cleaners in small quantities shouldn't be too harmful, as they become diluted. However, if you treat your drains on a weekly or even monthly basis, then bacteria levels in your tank could drop drastically, as the chemicals in these cleaners are extremely caustic.*

Too Cute to Pollute?



Did you know that pet waste is a serious threat to water quality? When left on the ground, sprinklers and rainwater wash it into storm drains, streams, and other receiving waters. The nutrients in pet poop feed algae growth and use oxygen in the water, which can choke out plants and wildlife. Pet waste also carries diseases that can make water unsafe for swimming, fishing and drinking. Lake Murray is a beautiful and valuable asset to our community, so help protect our waterways by picking up after your pet!

Utilities Department Contacts

Main Office (803) 345-0416

Emergency Response (803) 605-9711
(After Hours and Weekends)

Andy Metts - Director
Susan Wright – Utilities Coordinator
Theresa Hiott - Billing
Dan Lambert, PE – Town Engineer
Rey Angoluan - Inspections
Russell Wright - Operations
Matt Cameron – Maintenance
Anthony Andrade – Public Works

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER



Wednesday, August 23 – First day of school for District 5

Tuesday, August 15 – Town Council Meeting (Town Hall – 6PM)



September 2 – 4
Chapin Labor Day Festival Parade, Live Music, Classic Car Show and much more!



Monday, September 4 – Labor Day (Town Hall Closed)

Saturday, August 5
Saturday, September 2
Saturday October 7
Chapin Downtown Farmers Market



Tuesday, September 19 – Town Council Meeting (Town Hall – 6PM)

Tuesday, October 17 – Town Council Meeting (Town Hall – 6PM)

Town of Chapin Utilities Department
157 NW Columbia Ave.
PO Box 418
Chapin, SC 29036



**KNOW WHAT'S BELOW!!!!
CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!!**

REMINDER!!

+ The Town of Chapin prioritizes the protection of the environment from pollution, including overflows in the sanitary sewer system. If you see what you suspect may be a sewer overflow occurrence, please notify the Chapin Utilities Department in as timely a manner as possible, so our staff can investigate and minimize environmental consequences. YOU play a vital part in helping us keep our system operating smoothly!

Tel.: 345-0416 or after hours 605-9711

UTILITY DEPARTMENT NEWS

- The Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Preliminary Engineering Report has been approved by SCDHEC. The Construction Plans and Specifications as well as the State Revolving Fund Loan Application have also been submitted. Review comments have been favorable, and approval is expected by the end of July.
- The Town has completed its yearly Water Quality Report for its potable water system. A physical inspection of the water system was performed by SCDHEC staff. There were no violations to report. The Water Quality Report can be viewed on the Town's website at: <http://www.chapinnc.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/943>
The data analysis can be viewed at: <http://www.chapinnc.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/942>
- The Town welcomes John Walston to the Utilities Public Works section.