



Caring for Your Sewage Treatment Plant

Regular inspections and maintenance will help ensure your plant is operating at optimum performance and will maximise the lifespan of your equipment

Do's

- Follow manufacturers' recommended doses for your water type when using household cleaning products. Soft water requires far less detergent concentration than hard water.
- Try to use cleaning products little and often so your treatment plant is not overloaded.
- Use liquids (not powders) in washing machines and dishwashers. Powders re-coagulate into clumps and can cause blockages.
- Try to spread your clothes washing throughout the week.
- Stick to the same washing, dishwasher and other cleaning products as the bacteria will work more efficiently with products it is used to treating.
- Think before you put anything down the sink, toilet or drains.
- Desludge your plant when required. Click [HERE](#) to view our one page KEE EXPERT guide on proficient desludging and how regularly your unit should be desludged.
- Ensure only toilet paper is flushed down the toilet and used in normal quantities.
- Leave your plant switched on while you are away or on holiday. Switching off your plant can cause damage to the motor and moving parts as well as kill the biomass.
- Compost all your organic food waste or use your local council bio-degradable waste recycling service (where applicable) to dispose of organic waste. Do not flush organic waste down the sink or drain.

Don'ts

- Don't put sanitary towels, tampons, cotton wool or cotton wool buds, incontinence pads or any baby, cleaning or facial wipes down the toilet.
- Don't flush rubber products or other non-biodegradable products down the toilet.
- Don't pour fat, grease or cooking oil down the sink or drains. Fats suffocate the bacteria and inhibit the biological process. Everyday products such as milk, wine or beer increase the organic load and should also not be disposed of through the wastewater system.
- Don't use neat disinfectant or bleach. KEE recommends that these products are only used at the minimum concentration possible, as they can restrict the biomass growth within the plant.
- Don't tip medicine, mouth wash or any chemicals such as photographic fluid or garden products (e.g. Insecticides, weed killers and fungicides) down the drains as they will damage the biological treatment process.
- Don't pour DIY products (e.g. paint, thinners, turpentine and white spirit etc.) or car fluids such as engine oil, anti-freeze, brake fluid etc. down the drains.
- Don't allow rainwater, groundwater or large volumes of water (such as those from a swimming pool or Jacuzzi) into the plant. Chlorine kills the bacteria and the excessive water will increase the flow rate through the plant, not allowing sufficient treatment time.
- Don't fit a waste disposal unit under your kitchen sink. Disposing of organic matter through the treatment system increases the organic load, creating bacterial overgrowth which will inhibit the treatment process. Only use a waste disposal unit if your plant is specifically designed to accept higher organic loads.



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Tankering and De-sludging Process Explained

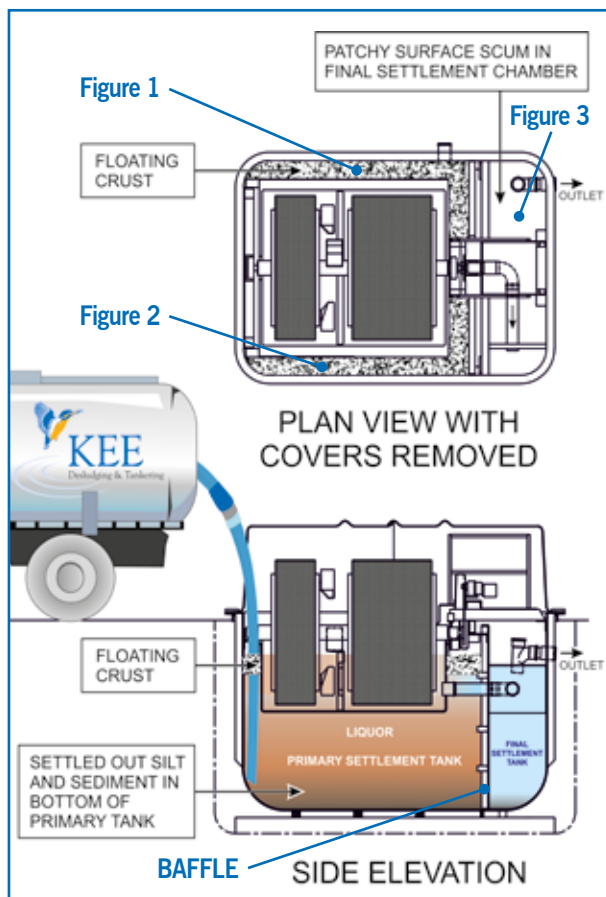
To keep your wastewater treatment system in good order and operating efficiently, it is important to remove the accumulated 'sludge' from the plant on a periodical basis. So how regularly does your plant require de-sludging?

There are two factors that require consideration before answering this question.

- The size of your plant and the number of people it serves
- How thoroughly the 'de-sludging' process is undertaken

Generally speaking a plant servicing a single house will require de-sludging once a year. For larger units, the de-sludging schedule will depend on the inlet flow rate and the type of wastewater being treated. Your local KEE Engineer or our Customer Service Team will be able to advise you in this instance.

If your plant is not de-sludged properly when required, the silt and sediment in the bottom of the Primary Settlement Tank (PST), Final Settlement Tank (FST) and the floating crust on the top of these tanks will build up over time and cause performance issues and possible odours. Additionally incorrect de-sludging can damage the internal Baffles and Drive components resulting in expensive and unnecessary repairs.



De-sludging Process

1. Break up the surface crust floating in Primary Settlement Tank (figure 1 and 2) and remove the floating crust solids with the suction hose.
2. Skim off and remove the crust floating in the FST (figure 3).
3. Put the hose back into the Primary Settlement Tank and push it right down to the bottom of the tank. Frequently move the hose along the length of the tank to ensure all the settlement sludge is removed.

We recommend your plant is de-sludged approximately 7-10 days before your KEE Engineer is scheduled to complete a routine Maintenance Service.

For more information or to arrange a tankering visit, please call our KEE Services team on 01296 634500