

Guest Guide – Septic Care

Help Keep This Home, the Community, and the Environment Healthy



Mornington Peninsula Shire

Caring For the Septic System at This Property

Welcome to your accommodation on the beautiful Mornington Peninsula. This property uses an onsite wastewater management system, often called a septic system. It treats all water from toilets, showers, sinks, laundry and the kitchen on the property. When a home is busy, the system can be under extra pressure.

By following these simple tips, you help prevent blockages, odours, public health risks and environmental harm, while keeping the accommodation safe and comfortable for everyone.

Use Water Wisely

- Keep showers short to four minutes. Try a timer or 4-minute song (this aligns with Victorian Government water-wise advice).
- Run the washing machine and dishwasher only with full loads, using eco mode and staggering use by utilising timers on machines.
- Try not to run many water using activities at the same time, for example several showers plus laundry and the dishwasher.
- Turn taps off while brushing teeth or washing dishes.

Toilets

- Put wipes, nappies, sanitary items, cotton buds, floss and other objects in the bathroom bin, even if the packet says flushable.

Bathroom And Laundry Products

- Use biodegradable soap, shampoo, detergent, and washing powder that are low in phosphorus – if you bring your own.
- Avoid using bleach or very strong disinfectants, as they can harm the helpful bacteria in the septic system.

In The Kitchen

- Scrape all food scraps into the bin before washing dishes and use the sink strainer to catch small bits of food before emptying into the bin.
- Do not pour oils or fats down the sink. Let them cool, then wipe pans with paper towel and place it in the rubbish.

Outside And What to Watch Out For

- Do not park cars on grassed areas that may cover the underground septic tank or land application area – which has fragile piping near the surface.
- Contact your host straight away if you notice slow-draining sinks or toilets, gurgling pipes, strong sewage smells, or wet patches on the lawn around the system.

Thank you for doing your part to care for this property, nearby waterways, community health, and the unique environment of the Mornington Peninsula.

