

**County of Santa Clara
Department of Environmental Health
Hazardous Materials Compliance Division
Solid Waste Programs**



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**SANTA CLARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
REGULATIONS GUIDANCE SHEET FOR SEPTIC TANK & CHEMICAL TOILET
CLEANERS**

1. All cleaners must have a current registration with the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health. Each registration is valid for one year and must be renewed annually.
2. Registration will be made only upon proper application for a permit to operate by the owner, an inspection of the pumping vehicle and equipment, and approval of the proposed disposal site and vehicle storage yard. Each permit is valid for one year and must be renewed annually.
3. The name, address, phone number, and tank capacity shall be displayed on both sides of the vehicle in letters no less than 4" high by 3/8" wide in colors that contrast with vehicle color.
4. Tanks shall be water tight and have water tight covers or manholes. A certificate of capacity from Santa Clara County Weights and Measures or other approved entity, must be presented. A functioning gauge must be provided and maintained that indicates actual tank contents. Discharge valves shall shut tightly. All valves shall be operated from the valve itself and not at the drivers seat or by remote control.
5. Pumps shall be leakproof and spill-proof.
6. A dedicated hose for cleaning the suction hose or other equipment shall be carried on the vehicle. Equipment shall be hosed off back into the unit being serviced and not onto the ground or premises. A customer's hose or equipment shall not be used for cleaning purposes.
7. Vehicles, vehicle equipment, and vehicle storage yards shall be maintained in a clean condition, free of offensive odors and vermin.
8. Cleanings from septic tanks and chemical toilets may only be disposed of as follows:
 - a. by discharge to a publicly owned sewage treatment plant,
 - b. by discharge to a facility or location approved by the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
9. Any change of ownership, business name or address must be reported to the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health within 5 days.
10. Accurate and legible pumping and disposal reports must be submitted each month to the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health not later than the 10th day of the succeeding month. A report, on forms provided by the department, is to be submitted each month whether or not work is performed.
11. Both compartments of septic tanks shall be pumped clean when serviced.