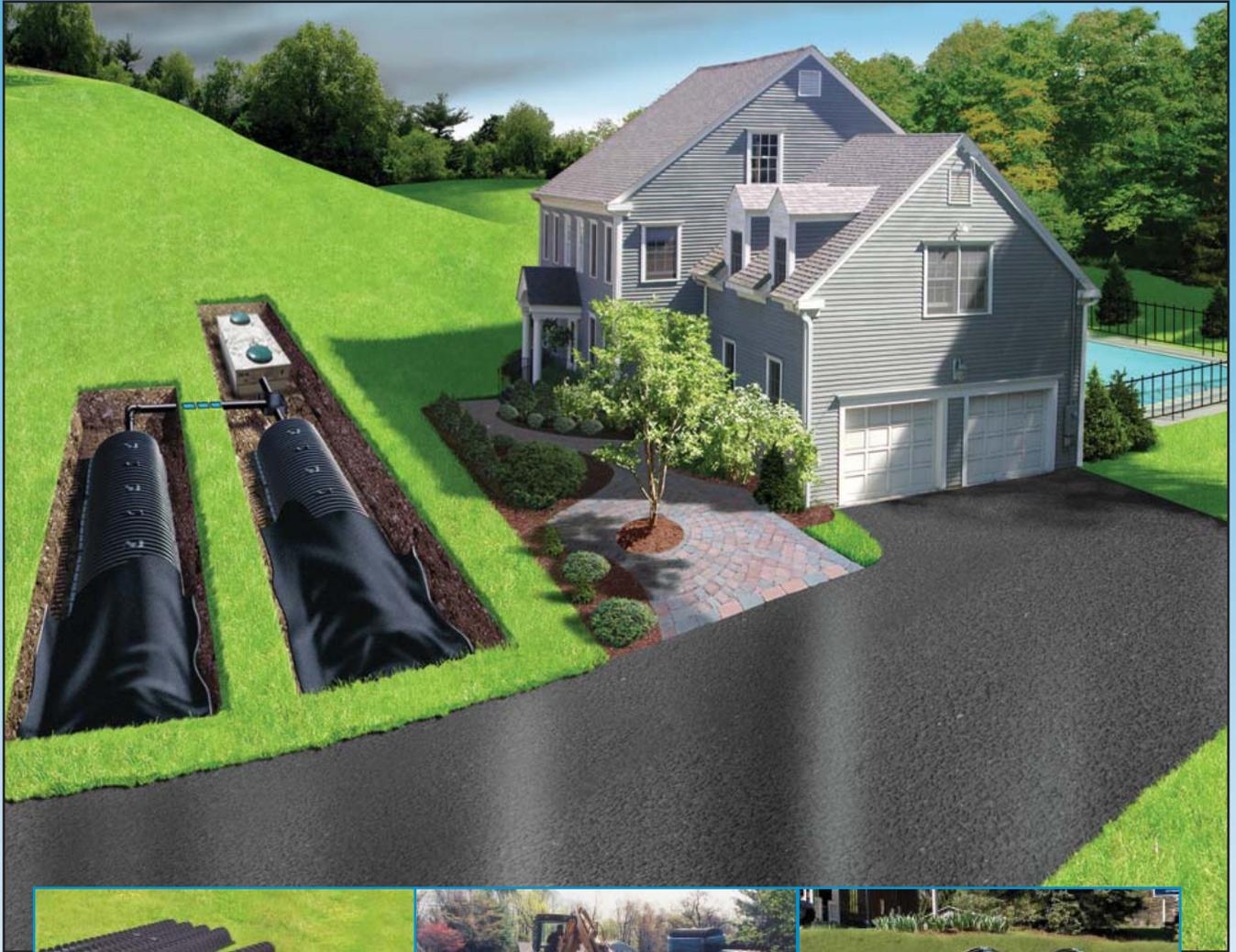


# Contactor® & Recharger® Septic Chambers The Chamber With The Stripe®



## Septic System Owner's Manual

How to Properly Care for Your CULTEC Leachfield System



# Get to Know Your CULTEC Septic System

*This manual contains guidelines recommended by CULTEC, Inc. and may be used in conjunction with, but not to supersede, local regulations or regulatory authorities. OSHA Guidelines must be followed when inspecting or cleaning any structure.*

A septic system achieves sewage treatment and disposal for rural homes where centralized sewage systems may not be available. It is composed of a septic tank and a drainfield (leachfield). The sewage flows from the house to the septic tank where the solids are removed; the wastewater then flows to the drainfield where it is allowed to soak into the ground.

## Septic System Components

- Septic tank
- Drainfield (leachfield) - CULTEC septic chambers

The septic tank is the primary collection tank for wastewater. This is where solids are settled out to the bottom of the tank to create a sludge and grease floats to the top creating a scum layer. The middle layer is the effluent that is typically drained out to the drainfield. Bacteria exist within the septic tank and begin to treat and break down the solids.

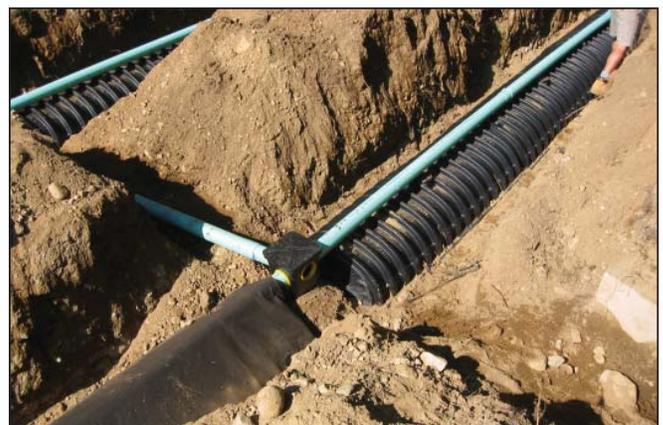
The drainfield (leachfield, disposal trench or subsurface disposal field) is an underground piping network buried below the surface of the ground. The CULTEC chambers create arch-shaped tunnels to provide an underground temporary holding area for the septic effluent. The field distributes the effluent from the septic tank over a large area allowing it to percolate through the soil.

Conventional drainfields have used perforated pipe and stone systems or concrete galleries to distribute the effluent. CULTEC's Contactor and Recharger plastic chambers may be used in place of these conventional systems for more effective installation.

Each state (and sometimes county or local municipality) has written septic regulations and guidelines which outline the square footage sizing required for a given septic leachfield. Our plastic septic chambers have been widely accepted in most parts of the United States for gravel-less septic leachfields as replacements for concrete galleries and conventional pipe and stone systems. Contact area is maximized by the fully open bottoms, perforated sidewalls, and use of CULTEC No. 410 Filter Fabric. The CULTEC No. 410 Filter Fabric works as a sponge wetting the entire surface area of the chambers and prevents soil intrusion. Units may be configured in trench or bed installations using gravity feed or pressure distribution according to acceptance by local regulations. Due to their greater contact area, CULTEC chambers are commonly allowed to reduce the overall system sizing requirements up to 50% when approved by the local authority. This sizing reduction may be a key factor when choosing septic products for a residence with tight site constraints, existing landscaping or when area is desired for other structures such as a swimming pool.



*Septic tank and leachfield using CULTEC chambers.*



*Septic leachfield using CULTEC chambers in pipe distribution system.*

# Operation & Maintenance



## What You Should Know

### Location

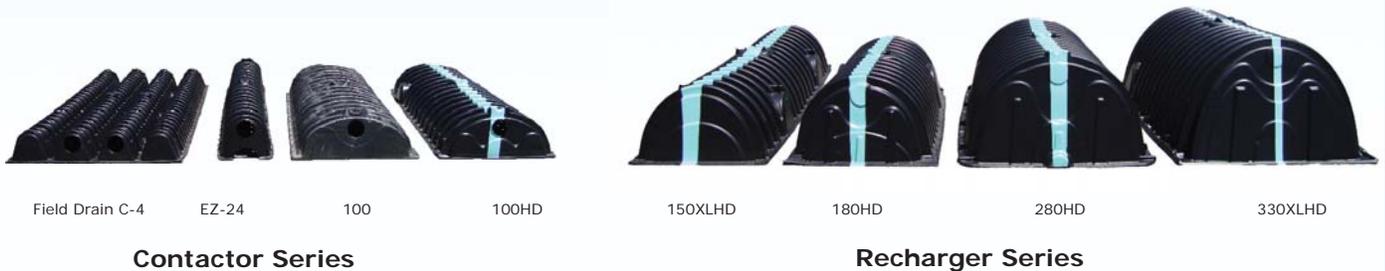
It is important to know the location of your septic tank and leachfield. Having this knowledge can help to avoid damage to the septic system. In most cases, the local health department should have a septic permit and as-built diagram on file which calls out the location of the system. If no such documentation is easily available, you can locate the septic tank by the exit pipe which leaves the house. A septic contractor may also be able to assist in locating the septic tank and leachfields. Once you have this information, keep it in a safe location.

### What was installed?

The septic permit filed with the town hall should have the type of system installed, number of trenches and the size of the system.

### CULTEC manufactures several different sized chambers.

See pictures below for some of our most common chamber models. Visit [www.cultec.com](http://www.cultec.com) for more sizing information.



## What You'll Need To Do

### Regular Maintenance

In order to properly maintain your septic system, you must have your septic tank pumped regularly. Typically, a system should be inspected and/or pumped every two to three years. Your septic tank service company can help to get you onto a personalized maintenance schedule based on your usage. Regular pumping is the key to a healthy, functioning system. Management Practices require the regular maintenance of the primary collection tank (septic tank) to ensure unobstructed flow out to the leachfield area. Distribution boxes (D-box) must also be inspected for any obstructions that would restrict outlet flow rates. OSHA Guidelines must be followed when inspecting or cleaning any structure.

### Septic System Maintenance Record

Keep a log of your septic system maintenance.

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

## DO

Call before you dig.

Limit water usage to avoid overloading the system.

Watch what you flush. Keep household cleaners, grease, paint, etc. out of the drains. Only flush bio-degradable products.

## DON'T

Don't drive over system.

Don't construct a structure over the tank or leach-field.

Don't plant trees over the septic system.

## 1-Year Limited Warranty

CULTEC, Inc. finished products, when properly installed, registered with Cultec, Inc., and operated under normal conditions of use, are covered under Cultec Inc.'s Limited Warranty to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of one (1) year from the date of manufacture. In order to obtain Cultec's Limited Warranty, the product warranty registration card must be completed and returned to Cultec, Inc., having been postmarked within thirty (30) days of installation. Failure to return the warranty registration card to Cultec, Inc. shall void the Limited Warranty. This Limited Warranty shall be void if the finished product is not installed within forty-five (45) days of the date of purchase from Cultec, Inc. In order to obtain performance under this Limited Warranty, Cultec, Inc. must be provided with written notice of any defect promptly (in no case later than ten (10) business days after initial discovery AND prior to the end of the Limited Warranty period), with such notice sent to 878 Federal Road, PO Box 280, Brookfield, CT 06804-0280. The original purchase receipt for the product must be included with documentation supporting any claim under the terms of this Limited Warranty. Failure to promptly submit notice of defect, a receipt and completed limited warranty certificate will void the Limited Warranty. Cultec, Inc. shall not be responsible for any freight charges incurred in connection with this Limited Warranty. A fee may be incurred when Cultec, Inc. (in its sole discretion) deems it necessary for a Cultec, Inc. representative to visit a product installation site.

This Limited Warranty extends only to Cultec, Inc. products when the products are installed in 'single level', provided that such products do not, in the collective, amount to more than 12,000 cubic feet (339.84 cubic meters) of water volume storage capacity. This Limited Warranty shall be void where products are installed in 'multi-layer' or 'multi-tier' systems, as well as wherein collective system volume exceeds 12,000 cubic feet (339.84 cubic meters) of water volume storage capacity. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Cultec, Inc., in its sole discretion, may extend certain Limited Warranty terms upon 'double-layer' or 'double-tier' product installations, as well as 'single level' product installations wherein collective system volume exceeds 12,000 cubic feet (339.84 cubic meters) of water volume storage capacity, provided that (i) the buyer has contacted Cultec, Inc. prior to installation and has advised of the proposed installation design; (ii) all product warranty registration information has been provided prior to product installation; (iii) a pre-construction/pre-installation meeting has been held with representatives of Cultec, Inc.; and (iv) Cultec, Inc. has provided written confirmation of its intent to honor any Limited Warranty terms with respect to the specific installation. Under no circumstances shall any decision by Cultec, Inc. to honor such terms be relied upon by any party in any subsequent product purchase or installation.

This Limited Warranty does not apply to installation piping and/or other parts not supplied by Cultec, Inc. Cultec, Inc.'s limited warranties also do not extend to any goods or parts which have been damaged prior to installation, subjected to misuse, damaged by lack of maintenance, improper installation, neglect, damaged by accident, or damaged by being crushed by heavy equipment weighing in excess of the rated load carrying capacity of the product. This Limited Warranty also does not apply to shipping or in-transit damage.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY DOES NOT APPLY TO CULTEC, INC. PRODUCTS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN INSTALLED ACCORDING TO CULTEC WRITTEN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS. ANY PRODUCT DAMAGE OR FAILURE RESULTING FROM IMPROPER OR NEGLIGENT INSTALLATION IS SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM THIS WARRANTY AND SHALL REMAIN THE BUYER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

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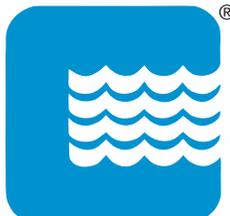
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