



It's not a matter of

'IF'

Rather a question of

'WHEN'



For more information,
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Health and Safety Hazards of Steel Septic Tanks





Problems:

During the 1960s and even into the 1990s, steel septic tanks were commonly used in septic system installations. Like automobiles, steel tanks are prone to rust and corrosion. The structural integrity of steel tanks weakens in as little as a decade and could eventually result in:

- **Human health risk** if exposed to household domestic wastewater
- **Collapse and/or cave-in** of the tank due to heavy saturated soils, frost heaving or compaction by driving or walking
- **Groundwater contamination** from untreated wastewater leaking out of a tank with holes
- **Outlet baffle failure** allows solids, fats, oils and greases to flow downstream and form a clogging mat in the absorption system
- **Infiltration of groundwater** into the steel tank through the holes adds excessive and unnecessary hydraulic pressure

Solutions:

Avoid death, injury, damage to property and other health and safety hazards by considering the following;

- Replace ANY existing steel tanks with a new code complying and product approved tank. Start by contacting a Wisconsin Licensed Plumber.
- Flag, ribbon, cover, barricade and/or rope-off potential hazardous areas.
- Avoid walking, mowing, driving on/or above old steel tanks, as covers and lids may collapse or cave-in.
- Have all septic tanks pumped and inspected once every three years or when the sludge and solids reach 1/3 tank capacity.



Assistance and Reimbursement

WI Fund Program - A state program providing reimbursement grants to homeowners and owners of small businesses that need to replace failing private wastewater treatment systems.

USDA, Rural Development- A federal program that offers loans and grants for home improvements.

