1. TRASH TRAP
Removes heavy inert solids and floatable greases.
EVERY SIX MONTHS
Have it pumped.

EXTENDED AERATION TREATMENT PLANT
This sewage treatment plant is an Extended Aeration or "Package" plant. This poster is intended to provide the layman with the basic information on operation and maintenance. The plant shown here is "typical." Yours may lack some of this equipment, or may have some not shown.

2. TREATMENT PLANT
Grows microorganisms (not insects, but usually called "bugs") that digest sewage. Need air CONSTANTLY to grow.

AERATION TANK(S)
DAILY CHECK:
COLOR: Chocolate brown, not gray or black.
ODOR: Musty, like compost; not a septic "rotten egg" smell.
AIR Blower should run all the time and keep the tank well-mixed.
MOTOR: Check the belt and the air filter.
SLUDGE Return pipe should be flowing about 1/3 full with chocolate brown liquid.

3. Dosing Chamber
Pumps water to filter

CLARIFIER(S)
DAILY CHECK:
NO FLOATING SLUDGE: Use skimmer as needed to remove floating sludge.
SLUDGE LEVEL: Water should be clear down to a depth of about 12".
WEEKLY:
SCRAP SLUDGE off clarifier walls down to the bottom of the tank.
QUARTERLY-YEARLY:
PUMP OUT the sludge in the clarifier, based on 30-minute settling test.

FILTERS
DAILY CHECK:
PONDED? If so, switch to another filter.
REMOVE WEEDS and DRIED SLUDGE: Lightly rake the sand smooth.
ALTERNATE BEDS: Switch every two weeks.

4. FILTERS
Removes finer solids from treated water.

5. CHLORINATOR/DECHLORINATOR
Kills germs with chlorine, then removes chlorine.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE
THE TREATMENT PLANT NEEDS MAINTENANCE like any mechanical equipment. If you can't do it yourself, hire a qualified operator to check it at least monthly.

TO FIND AN OPERATOR: Check the Yellow Pages under Sewage Treatment, not "Septic Tanks."
-OR- Ask Ohio EPA or your County Sanitary Engineer or Health Department.

CHECK THE TREATMENT PLANT DAILY Even if you hire an Operator, you still need to check the plant every day. Call your Operator if there's a problem.

FOR HELP, CALL:
Ohio EPA Offices
CDO: 614-728-3778
NEDO: 330-963-1200
SWDO: 513-285-6357
NWDO: 419-352-8461
SEDO: 614-385-8501

Waste Water Treatment Facilities in Ohio

[Map of Ohio showing waste water treatment facilities]