Clean Your Water Tank

Did you know?

Homeowners on trucked water services should clean and disinfect the water tank every year for health. Cleaning and disinfecting your water tank is necessary to protect your family's health. It is the homeowner's responsibility to have the tank cleaned, by hiring a professional or doing it yourself.

Hire a professional.

You can hire a professional to clean and disinfect your water tank for you. This service can cost you several hundred dollars. Here is a list of businesses in Igaluit that provide this service.

979-8662 Lawlor Mechanical

Nuna Mechanical 222-6862/975-3159 Sakku Services 222-4365/222-4868

South Baffin Holdings 979-6476

Do it yourself.

If you want to clean and disinfect a tank yourself, it's important you learn and prepare in advance.

Safety comes first! Never enter into a confined space.

Use new, clean materials to sanitize the tank.

If you cannot do it yourself safely, hire a professional (see above).

You will need equipment: a brand new long-handled mop, unscented liquid bleach, and set aside 50 liters of clean water reserved to flush the tank. Read all instructions before starting.

Instructions for **cleaning and disinfecting** the tank:

- 1. Set aside 50 liters of clean warm water for later, then drain the tank by running your taps.
- 2. Scrub the inner tank using a new mop and water, removing any buildup. *Do not enter the tank.*
- 3. Flush with 10 liters of water, then drain by running the taps. Ensure all dirt has been removed.
- 4. Add 20 liters (5 gallons) of water. Add 2 cups of unscented liquid bleach (such as Javex) for disinfection.
- 5. Using the long-handled mop, thoroughly disinfect the entire inside of the tank. Safety first! Never enter a confined space under any circumstance.
- 6. Drain the tank of bleach water by running your taps.
- 7. Flush the inner tank with 20 liters of clean water. Drain the tank again by running your taps.
- 8. Contact Public Works to get a fresh tank refill and sewage pump-out. The job is now complete.

These directions are based on guidelines provided by the Government of Nunavut's Department of Health. If you have questions or concerns, call the Environmental Health Officer at Iqaluit Public Health (975-4800).

June 2015

