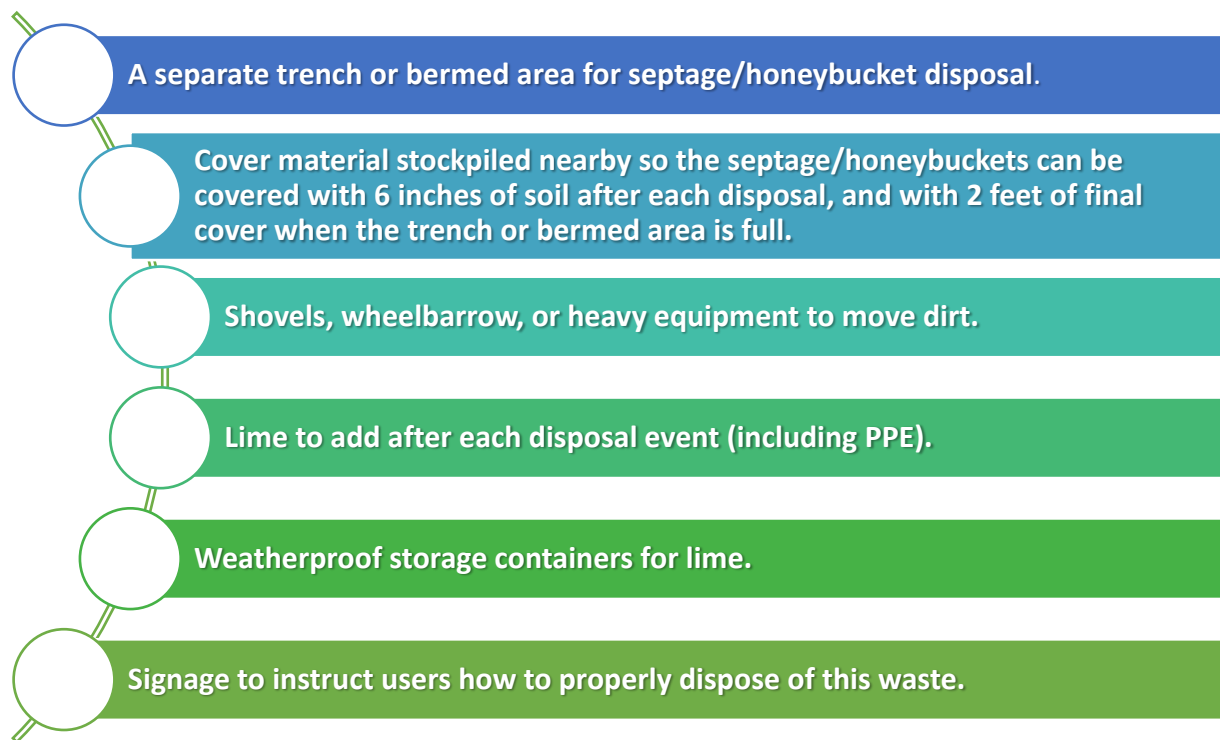


5.2 Septage/Honeybucket Waste

The landfill may accept septage or honeybucket waste if the landfill is permitted for this waste and the waste is deposited into a designated trench or bermed area that meets required standards, and is maintained so that it doesn't overflow. Hydrated lime must be added to achieve a pH of 12 for 30 minutes after each disposal. (18 AAC 60.365).

Septage/honeybucket waste should never be mixed with household trash disposed of in the same location as other waste, as this creates leachate and greatly increases the chances of germs from the waste being tracked back to the community by vehicles or people. For safety, it is best to place septage/honeybucket waste into the designated trench or bermed area.

Requirements for good management of septage and honeybucket waste at the landfill:



Why are these important?

- Separate trench or bermed area: Reduces the possibility of exposure to potential diseases from contact with exposed honeybucket waste and septage. It also makes it easier to cover and manage the waste.
- Cover material: A minimum of 6 inches of cover material added to the waste that is sufficiently solid will help to control odors.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN RURAL ALASKA

- Hydrated lime: Lime is a powdered substance that kills the bacteria and reduces the smell associated with honeybucket and septage waste.
- Weatherproof container: Lime needs to be kept dry until application for it to be effective. Storing it in a weatherproof container near the septage or honeybucket area will keep it dry and promote regular use.
- Signage: Giving directions for how and where to dispose of septage/honeybucket waste will reduce the risk to landfill users.



Septage trench with lime added.

Helpful Tips:

- If possible, instead of a designated trench in the landfill, construct a separate lagoon outside of the landfill for septage/honeybucket waste.
- A minimum of 4 feet between the bottom of the designated septage trench and the seasonally high groundwater is required. See diagram at the end of this section.
- Ideally, the trench should be dug in soil that drains easily, such as sandy soil, so that liquids put into the trench will soak into the soil.
- Some communities place honeybucket hoppers by the front gate of the landfill. This allows operators to control access to the landfill and the operators can empty the hoppers in the appropriate disposal area.
- Seasonal planning is important. If the community experiences lagoon or plumbing failures in the winter, then planning ahead and digging a trench in the summer for emergency honeybucket disposal can prevent the honeybuckets from being mixed with household waste throughout the year.
- Lime should be added by the operator to the honeybucket or septage waste at a rate of approximately 25 pounds



Honeybucket collection bins staged outside the landfill.

of lime for every 1,000 pounds of honeybucket waste, or approximately 2 cups of lime for every 5 gallons of honeybucket waste.

Lime – Which one is the right one?

The correct type of lime to use in a septage/honeybucket pit is a lime that sanitizes. The two types of lime that sanitize are calcium oxide (commonly called quicklime) and calcium hydroxide (also known as hydrated lime). Either of these lime types, when mixed with the moisture within the septage/honeybucket waste, will generate a high pH (alkaline) solution. It is this high pH that kills microorganisms. Again, the correct forms of lime to use are “*quicklime*” or “*hydrated lime*.” Quicklime is the best, but it can be very expensive and difficult to obtain in Alaska, so hydrated lime may be the more practical option.

DO NOT USE calcium carbonate. This is another form of lime that will not sanitize and thus is not useful for a septage/honeybucket disposal pit. Another common form of lime that does not sanitize is Aglime (garden lime), which contains calcium carbonate and magnesium carbonate.

Where to purchase hydrated or quicklime?

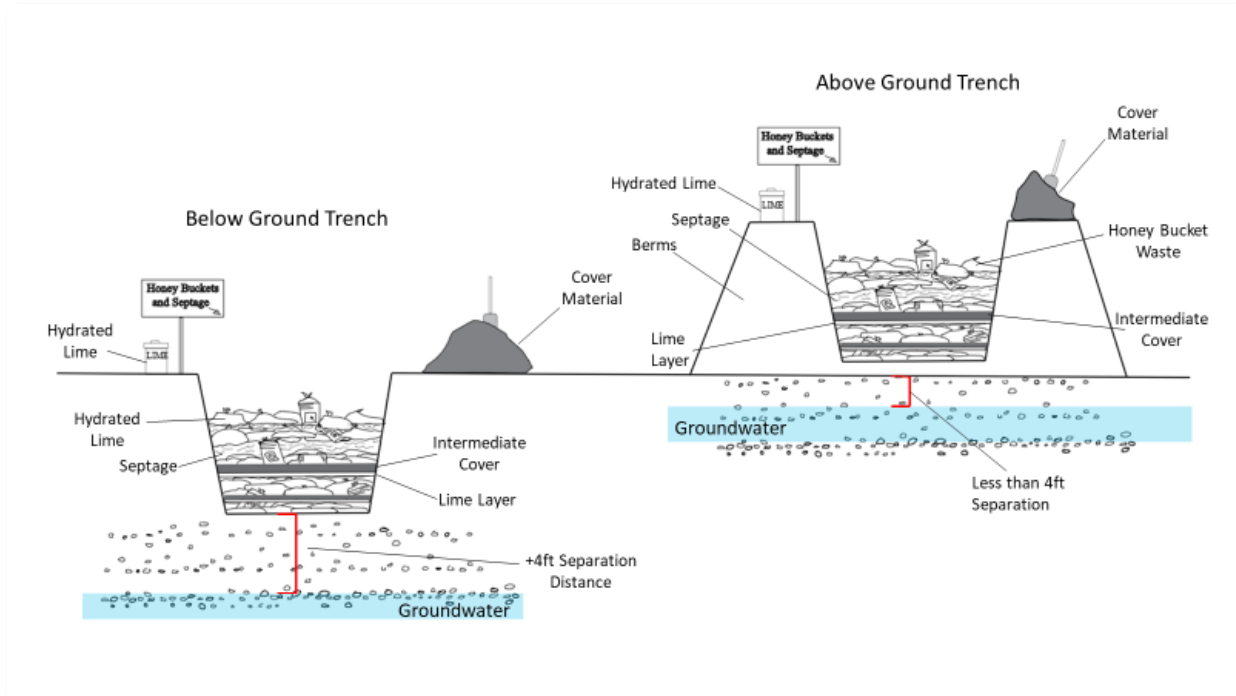
Option #1	Option #2	Option #3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask a local store to order some.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the local or regional corporation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Order online.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): When handling lime be sure to use any appropriate PPE recommended by the manufacturer. This often includes gloves, eye protection, and a mask to prevent inhalation.



Septage trench.

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Cross sections for a honey bucket trench and an above ground honey bucket disposal area.