

# **Textile Filters**

## ***Design and Performance***

A recent development in the on-site sewage treatment industry is the textile filter. There are several different types of textile filters, but they all share common characteristics. The media is high in surface area, void space, and water holding capacity and is fibrous, not solid. They generally have a small land use requirement, some as small as 10-20 square feet. They are usually loaded at high rates, such as 20-45 gallons per day per square foot. Many times they are recirculating meaning the effluent passes through the filter several times before going to a soil treatment component. To date, several textile filters have been installed in Minnesota. Preliminary data has shown these filters to effectively pre-treat wastewater. The effluent from a textile filter then goes to a soil treatment system.

## ***Maintenance***

At some point the textile media may need to be removed and replaced with new media, but because this technology has only been around for a few years it is uncertain when this will be needed. The media itself is a synthetic fiber made of durable and biodegradation-resistant polymers, so it should last forever. Overtime the media may fill up with solids, grease and oil. Proper maintenance of the septic tank will facilitate the media lasting longer.