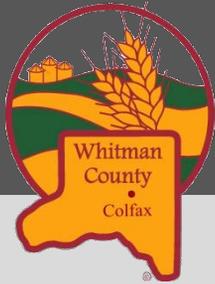


# Whitman County Environmental Health Board of Health Report

Tuesday, January 19, 2016

BOCC Chambers  
Colfax, WA



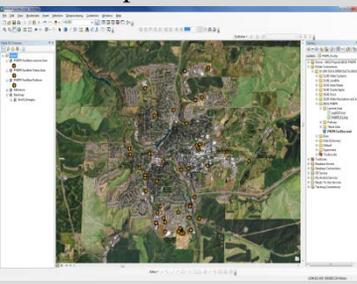
## Cluster Developments



2015 will be known as the “Year of Cluster”. As end of year code changes approached, 11 cluster development applications were submitted to the Planning Department. EH Staff will review each proposed site for onsite sewage and water use.

## GIS Updates

Environmental Health staff continue to work with the Whitman County Public Works Department on the implementation of the GIS workstation and look forward to sharing EH data and imagery, and permit status.



## Committee Reviews Home Sales

With an increase in home sales in rural areas of Whitman County, the Whitman County Environmental Health Department has seen an increase in the request for information on septic systems and wells that serve these residences. With a total population of 46,820 (2014 US Census Data), it is estimated that nearly 88% of county residents are currently connected to municipal services. As a result, approximately 6,560 residents in Whitman County are utilizing a septic system as their sanitary sewer. A review of current and historical permits indicates that just



*Onsite Sewage Committee considers requiring evaluation septic system at the time of sale.*

over 1,500 permits have been issued since implementation of Section XVIII of the County Code in 1977. To date, Environmental Health staff have met with the OSS Committee, Whitman County Realtors' Association, title companies, and the County's Assessor's, Treasurer's, and Auditor's Office.

## Environmental Health Starting Off 2016

### Permitting

Permits to date:

- Food Program (\$72,000)
- Onsite Sewage (\$6,000)
- Water Recreation (\$ 7,500)
- Solid Waste (\$8,750)

### Committees

Committee Meetings:

- Onsite Sewage Committee (January)
- Food Advisory Committee Meeting (February)
- School Safety (May)

### Budgeting

- 2017 Budget under development
- No overall increase in EH fees
- Development of “process” fees
- Reduce overall number of fees

## Whitman County Environmental Health

Pullman Office  
1205 SE Professional Mall Blvd  
Pullman, WA 99163

Colfax Office  
310 N. Main Street  
Colfax, WA 99111

[www.whitmancounty.org/environmentalhealth](http://www.whitmancounty.org/environmentalhealth)



## WHITMAN COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Pullman Branch Office  
1205 SE Pro Mall Blvd. Suite 203  
Pullman, WA 99163  
Phone: (509) 397-6280  
Fax: (509) 397-6239

Central Office  
310 N. Main Street  
Colfax, WA 99111  
Phone: (509) 332-6752  
Fax: (509) 334-4517

[EH@whitmancounty.net](mailto:EH@whitmancounty.net)

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### **Sale or Transfer of Properties with a Septic System**

Before a property with an on-site sewage system (septic system) is sold or transferred, Whitman County regulations require an Onsite Sewage System Evaluation Report be completed and filed with the Whitman County Public Health Department. The goal is to protect public health, to evaluate all septic systems, to identify and repair failing systems, and make records available to the public. This requirement becomes effective **July 1, 2016**.

#### **Steps to receive a Time of Transfer Evaluation Report**

- 1. Application:** Owners of properties being sold or transferred must complete an Onsite Sewage Evaluation Form. The form must be completed by a Licensed Onsite Sewage Evaluator unless the septic system has been installed or evaluated within the last **3 years**.

A time of sale inspection is not required if:

- The sale/transfer is due to foreclosure, sheriff's sale, court-ordered transfer, gift, inheritance, or devise; OR
- The sale/transfer occurs before July 1, 2016.

- 2. Onsite Sewage Evaluation Form Submittal:** The Onsite Sewage Evaluation Form and any supporting documents can be submitted by the homeowner or onsite sewage system evaluator:

#### **By Mail -**

Whitman County Environmental Health  
Pullman Branch Office  
1205 SE Pro Mall Blvd. Suite 203  
Pullman, WA 99163

Whitman County Environmental Health  
Colfax Office  
310 N. Main Street  
Colfax, WA 99111

#### **In Person -**

Whitman County Public Health Offices  
Monday thru Friday – 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
& 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

- 3. Inspection:** All components of the septic system will be inspected by a Whitman County Certified Evaluator, EXCEPT for those systems evaluated or installed within the last 5 years. These evaluations will verify systems are functioning as designed.

- 4. Record Drawing:** If no record drawings (also called as-builts) are available, the Whitman County Certified Evaluator will draw to scale of all components of the septic system.

As-builts may be available through the Whitman County Environmental Health Department. Please contact the office for records requests

- 5. Pump Septic Tank and Pump Chamber:**

The septic tank and pump chamber must be pumped by a Whitman County certified septic pumper at the time of the evaluation, UNLESS:

- The septic tank and pump chamber was pumped less than 36 months before the property sale/transfer, and
- A copy of the Septic Tank Pump and Service Report is included with the Onsite Sewage Evaluation Form.

- 6. Report Issued:** Upon receipt of a complete application, required reports, and payment of fee, the Health Department will evaluate the system and issue a Time of Transfer Evaluation Report (usually within a week). This report is valid for one year, and renewable on request.

- 7. Repairs to on-site sewage (septic) system and need for an updated evaluation:** Any onsite sewage system that is deemed failing by the Whitman County Certified Evaluator will be required to be repaired and brought up to current code.

A new permit and associated fees would be assessed at this time.

- 8. Fees and Data Management.** All applications and documents will be kept by Whitman County. A \$40.00 fee will be assessed at the time of submission.

# Time of Transfer Frequently Asked Questions

## **Q: What happens if problems are identified?**

**A:** Failing septic systems are a public health concern. If the on-site septic system is failing, the owner must immediately correct the problem. Common failures are sewage backing up into the building or surfacing on the ground, a cracked septic tank leaking sewage, missing or broken inlet / outlet baffles, or a nonfunctioning pump. Deficiencies that require attention but do not require immediate repair include broken monitoring ports, clean-outs, or risers, as well as a system not properly sized for the number of bedrooms in the residence. (However, permits for changes to the structure or property, or operational certificates, if required, may be held up until deficiencies are corrected.)

Both major and minor problems will be noted on the evaluation report. If the property owner corrects problems according to regulations and would like an evaluation report to reflect the changes, a Time of Transfer Evaluation Report application can be resubmitted

## **Q: What types of repairs require a permit?**

**A:** A sewage system repair permit is required to replace a drainfield or a tank. A repair permit is not required to repair or replace baffles or a pump.

## **Q: Will the Health Department prohibit the sale of my property?**

**A:** No, the Health Department has no right or intention to prohibit property sales. The goal is to protect public health and to provide information to parties involved in the sale or transfer of property. The evaluation report will include any notices of violations or deficiencies found during the inspection and record review.

## **Q: What will the Time of Transfer Evaluation Report include?**

**A:** System Information that is currently available or required according to County requirements;

- ✓ Type of system
- ✓ Approved use
- ✓ Approval Date
- ✓ Installation Date
- ✓ Record Drawing (As-built)
- ✓ Status of septic system – based on inspection reports
- ✓ Maintenance requirements
- ✓ Actions needed to correct problems
- ✓ Compliance with WAC 246-272A

## **Q: Will my old septic system be required to be upgraded to meet current code?**

**A:** If the on-site septic system is functioning properly, it will be allowed to continue in its current use. If the on-site sewage system is failing, it will require a repair.

## **Q: Where do I submit my application and other documents?**

**A:** Whitman County Environmental Health  
Pullman Branch Office  
1205 SE Pro Mall Blvd. Suite 203  
Pullman, WA 99163

Whitman County Environmental Health  
Colfax Office  
310 N. Main Street  
Colfax, WA 99111

**Q: I have several on-site sewage (septic) systems on my property. Does each system need to go through the Time of Transfer Evaluation?**

**A:** Yes, each on-site sewage system will need to go through the Time of Transfer Evaluation. Each system will be required to be evaluated by a Whitman County Certified Evaluator. All documentation and applications for each system will be required to be submitted to the Whitman County Environmental Health Department.

Only properties identified as a separate parcel will be required to submit the \$40.00 Property Sale or Transfer fee.

**Q: I just installed my system. Do I need to go through the Time of Transfer Evaluation?**

**A:** If the onsite sewage system was a new construction or a repair and permitted by Whitman County Environmental Health within the last 36 months, no additional inspection is required. Please contact Whitman County Environmental Health to confirm documentation and records/copies of permits.

**Q: My home is connected to a large on-site sewage system that serves our entire subdivision. How do I go through the time of Transfer Evaluation?**

If your residence is connected to a large on-site sewage system, (LOSS) you are not required to go through the Time of Transfer evaluation process. A large on-site sewage system is a septic system that has flows over three thousand five hundred (3,500) gallons per day at any common point. These sewage systems are regulated by the Washington State Department of Health (360) 236-3330.

To find out if you have a large on-site sewage system please call Whitman County Environmental Health at (509) 332-6752.

**For more information** about on-site septic systems, lists of on-site specialists certified in Whitman County, and forms, please visit our website: [www.whitmancounty.org/environmentalhealth](http://www.whitmancounty.org/environmentalhealth)

**SEPTIC ADDENDUM TO  
PURCHASE & SALE AGREEMENT**

The following is part of the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated \_\_\_\_\_ 1  
between \_\_\_\_\_ ("Buyer") 2  
and \_\_\_\_\_ ("Seller") 3  
concerning \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Property"). 4

THIS ADDENDUM SUPERSEDES ANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE ON- 5  
SITE SEWAGE SYSTEM ("OSS") SERVING THE PROPERTY, EXCEPT FOR THE PROVISIONS OF A COUNTY 6  
SPECIFIC SEPTIC ADDENDUM. 7

1. **Type of OSS.** The Property is served by: 8  
 Private Septic System 9  
 Shared Septic System 10

2. **Seller's Representations.** Seller represents that, to the best of Seller's knowledge, the OSS serving the Property 11  
(a) does not require repair other than pumping and normal maintenance; (b) does not currently violate any 12  
applicable local, state, and federal laws, standards, and regulations; and (c) has no material defects. 13

3. **Maintenance Records.** Seller shall deliver to Buyer the maintenance records, if available, of the OSS serving 14  
the Property within \_\_\_\_\_ days (10 days if not filled in) of mutual acceptance. 15

4. **County or City Inspection Requirements.** Seller shall comply with any local regulations or ordinances that may 16  
require Seller to conduct an inspection of the OSS prior to the sale of the Property. 17

5. **Inspection and Pumping of OSS.** Seller shall have the OSS inspected and, if necessary, pumped by an 18  
OSS service company at Seller's expense. Seller shall provide Buyer with a copy of the inspection report within 19  
\_\_\_\_\_ days (10 days if not filled in) of mutual acceptance. If Seller had the OSS inspected and, if 20  
necessary, pumped within \_\_\_\_\_ months (12 months if not filled in) of mutual acceptance by an OSS 21  
service company and Seller provides Buyer with written evidence thereof, including an inspection report, Seller 22  
shall have no obligation to inspect and pump the system unless otherwise required by Buyer's lender. 23

**Buyer's Right to Attend Inspection.** If checked and if Seller has not already conducted an inspection, Buyer 24  
shall have the right to observe the inspection. Seller shall provide Buyer with 3 days notice of the date and 25  
time of the inspection. 26

6. **OSS Inspection Contingency.** This Agreement is conditioned on Buyer's approval of the inspection report from 27  
the OSS service company. This contingency shall be deemed waived unless Buyer gives notice of disapproval of 28  
the inspection report within \_\_\_\_\_ days (5 days if not filled in) after receipt of the inspection report. If 29  
Buyer gives timely notice of disapproval, the Agreement shall terminate and the Earnest Money shall be refunded 30  
to Buyer. 31

7. **Other.** 32

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Initials: BUYER: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ SELLER: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
BUYER: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ SELLER: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**"Well"** means any excavation that is constructed when the intended use of the well is for the location, diversion, artificial recharge, observation, monitoring, dewatering or withdrawal of ground water for agricultural, municipal, industrial, domestic, or commercial use.

Excluded are:

- (a) A temporary observation or monitoring well used to determine the depth to a water table for locating an OSS;
- (b) An observation or monitoring well used to measure the effect of an OSS on a water table; and
- (c) An interceptor or curtain drain constructed to lower a water table.

**WAC 246-272A-0015 Local management and regulation.**

- (1) By July 1, 2007, the local health officers of health jurisdictions in the twelve counties bordering Puget Sound shall develop a written plan that will provide guidance to the local health jurisdiction regarding development and management activities for all OSS within the jurisdiction. The plan must specify how the local health jurisdiction will:
  - (a) Progressively develop and maintain an inventory of all known OSS in operation within the jurisdiction;
  - (b) Identify any areas where OSS could pose an increased public health risk. The following areas shall be given priority in this activity:
    - (i) Shellfish protection districts or shellfish growing areas;
    - (ii) Sole source aquifers designated by the USEPA;
    - (iii) Areas in which aquifers used for potable water as designated under the Washington State Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW are critically impacted by recharge;
    - (iv) Designated wellhead protection areas for Group A public water systems;
    - (v) Up-gradient areas directly influencing water recreation facilities designated for swimming in natural waters with artificial boundaries within the waters as described by the Water Recreation Facilities Act, chapter 70.90 RCW;
    - (vi) Areas designated by the department of ecology as special protection areas under WAC 173-200-090, Water quality standards for ground waters of the state of Washington;
    - (vii) Wetland areas under production of crops for human consumption;
    - (viii) Frequently flooded areas including areas delineated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and or as designated under the Washington State Growth Management Act, chapter 36.70A RCW;
    - (ix) Areas where nitrogen has been identified as a contaminant of concern; and
    - (x) Other areas designated by the local health officer.

- (c) Identify operation, maintenance and monitoring requirements commensurate with risks posed by OSS within the geographic areas identified in (b) of this subsection;
  - (d) Facilitate education of homeowners regarding their responsibilities under this chapter and provide operation and maintenance information for all types of systems in use within the jurisdiction;
  - (e) Remind and encourage homeowners to complete the operation and maintenance inspections required by WAC 246-272A-0270;
  - (f) Maintain records required under this chapter, including of all operation and maintenance activities as identified; and
  - (g) Enforce OSS owner permit application, operation, monitoring and maintenance and failure repair requirements defined in WAC 246-272A-0200(1), 246-272A-0270, 246-272A-0275, and 246-272A-0280 (1) and (2);
  - (h) Describe the capacity of the local health jurisdiction to adequately fund the local OSS plan, including the ability to find failing and unknown systems; and
  - (i) Assure that it was developed to coordinate with the comprehensive land use plan of the entities governing development in the health officer's jurisdiction.
- (2) After being approved by the local board of health following a public hearing, the local health officers required to develop a written plan under subsection (1) of this section shall:
- (a) Supply a copy of the plan to the department;
  - (b) Supply a copy of the plan to the entities responsible for land use planning and development regulations in the health officer's jurisdiction; and
  - (c) Implement the plan described in subsection (1) of this section.
- (3) The plans of local health jurisdictions required to develop a written plan under subsection (1) of this section shall be submitted to the department by July 1, 2007, and shall be reviewed to ensure the elements described in subsection (1) of this section have been addressed. The department shall provide in writing to the local board of health its review of the completeness of the plan.
- (4) For purposes of this chapter, the local health jurisdictions in marine counties are Clallam, Island, Kitsap, Jefferson, Mason, San Juan, Seattle-King, Skagit, Snohomish, Tacoma-Pierce, Thurston and Whatcom.
- (5) The local health officers for all other jurisdictions not required to develop a written plan under subsection (1) of this section shall develop a written plan that will provide guidance to the local jurisdiction regarding development and management activities for all OSS within the jurisdiction. At a minimum the plan shall include:
- (a) A description of the capacity of the local health jurisdiction to provide education and operation and maintenance information for all types of systems in use within the jurisdiction;

- (b) A description of how the local health officer will remind and encourage homeowners to complete the operation and maintenance inspection required by WAC 246-272A-0270; and
  - (c) A description of the capacity of the local health jurisdiction to adequately fund the local OSS plan.
- (6) In order to implement the plan described in subsections (1) and (5) of this section, the local health officer shall require the owner of the OSS to:
- (a) Comply with additional requirements identified in the plan for the location, design, or performance; and
  - (b) Comply with the conditions of the operational permit if one is required.
- (7) In order to implement the plan described in subsections (1) and (5) of this section, the local health officer may require the owner of the OSS to:
- (a) Ensure additional maintenance and monitoring of the OSS;
  - (b) Provide dedicated easements for inspections, maintenance, and potential future expansion of the OSS;
  - (c) Place a notice to title identifying any additional requirements for OSS operation, maintenance and monitoring; and
  - (d) Have an inspection of the OSS at the time of property transfer including the preparation of a "record drawing" if necessary.
- (8) No later than July 1, 2006, the department shall develop guidance on local management programs to assist marine local health jurisdictions in plan development.
- (9) Until such time as the local board of health decides to adopt its own rules, the local health officer shall enforce this chapter. Local boards of health may adopt and enforce local rules and regulations governing on-site sewage systems when the local regulations are:
- (a) Consistent with, and at least as stringent as, this chapter; and
  - (b) Approved by the department prior to the effective date of local regulations.
- (10) A local board of health shall apply for departmental approval of local regulations by initiating the following procedure:
- (a) The local board shall submit the proposed local regulations to the department.
  - (b) Within ninety days of receipt, the department shall:
    - (i) Approve the regulation in writing; or
    - (ii) Signify automatic tacit approval with the local regulations and permitting local implementation by failing to act; or
    - (iii) Deny approval of the regulations. If the department determines local regulations are not consistent with this chapter, the department shall provide specific reasons for denial.



Whitman County Environmental Health Department  
 1205 SE Pro Mall Blvd. Ste 203  
 Pullman, WA. 99163  
 Phone: (509) 332-6752 Fax: (509) 334-4517  
[eh@whitmancounty.net](mailto:eh@whitmancounty.net)

## DRAFT 2017 Environmental Health Fees

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Permit Type	Fee	<u>2017</u>
<b>Food Protection Program</b>		
Food & Beverage Workers Permit	10.00	
Replacement Food & Beverage Workers Permit	5.00	
Manager's Certification	225.00	
<b>Restaurants</b>		
Minimum Fee (no seating)	172.00	
1 – 25 Seats	205.00	
26 –50 Seats	266.00	
51 – 100 Seats	359.00	
101+ Seats	420.00	
Simple Menu w/Food	68.00	
Complex Menu	101.00	
With Lounge/Liquor, add additional fee of	165.00	
With Beer/Wine served, add additional fee of	115.00	
<b>Complex Grocery Store (3 or more check-outs)</b>		
Meat-cutting Facility Permit	87.00	
Deli Section Permit-Complex	105.00	
Deli Section Permit-Simple	30.00	
Dairy Section Permit	15.00	
Produce Section w/ Food Preparation Permit	60.00	
<b>Basic Grocery Store</b>		
Meat-cutting Facility Permit	<del>87.00</del>	<u>75.00</u>
Deli Section Permit-Complex	<del>105.00</del>	<u>85.00</u>
Deli Section Permit-Simple	<del>30.00</del>	<u>25.00</u>
Dairy Section Permit	<del>15.00</del>	<u>10.00</u>
Produce Section w/ Food Preparation Permit	<del>60.00</del>	<u>45.00</u>
<b>Convenience Store (pre-packaged foods only)</b>		
	85.00	
<b>Catering</b>		
Mobile Units	275.00	
Additional Mobile Units	250.00	
Commissary Approval	205.00	
<b>Farmers' Market</b>		<u>50.00</u>
Bed & Breakfast	125.00	
<u>Limited Menu Hotel/Motel</u>		<u>125.00</u>
Fraternities & Sororities	210.00	

<u>Whole House Inspection</u>		<u>250.00</u>
Schools	210.00	
Temporary Events (1-2 Days)		
Temporary Commercial	90.00	
Commercial Low Risk Menu	55.00	
Commercial Limited Risk Menu	25.00	
Temporary Benevolent	20.00	
Temporary Events (3 or More Days)		
Temporary Commercial	<del>90.00+</del> <del>35.00/day</del>	<u>150.00</u>
Commercial Low Risk Menu	<del>55.00+</del> <del>25.00/day</del>	<u>75.00</u>
Commercial Limited Risk Menu	<del>25.00+</del> <del>10.00/day</del>	<u>35.00</u>
Temporary Benevolent	<del>20.00+</del> <del>10.00/day</del>	<u>25.00</u>
Failed Temporary Event Inspection/ Follow Up	85.00	
<u>Late submissions</u>		<u>Double fees</u>
<u>1-2 days before event</u>		<u>\$15.00</u>
<u>3-10 days before event</u>		<u>\$5.00</u>
<u>10-13 days before event</u>		<u>\$5.00</u>
<del>Plan Review-First 2 hours</del>	<del>185.00</del>	
<del>— Each Additional Hour</del>	<del>110.00</del>	
Late Plan Reviews (WAC 246-215-8-302.11)	110.00	
Variance Request	110.00	
<del>Pre-opening Inspection</del>	<del>255.00</del>	
<del>Complex Menu-New Establishment Packet</del>		<u>285.00</u>
<del>2 hour plan review</del>		
<del>Pre-opening inspection</del>		
<del>Process Walk-Thru</del>		
<u>Limited Menu-New establishment packet</u>		<u>150.00</u>
<u>2 hour plan review</u>		
<u>Pre-opening inspection</u>		
<u>Process Walk-Thru</u>		
Modified Packaging	55.00	
Follow-up/Failed Inspection for Food Establishment	150.00	
Second follow up on failed inspection	375.00	
Health Officer Hearing	550.00	
Health Officer Follow up Inspection	110.00	

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Operating without a FSE Permit (Plan Review Required)	Double all fees	
Process walk-thru (hourly)	110.00	
Late fee for Food Establishments (up to 60 days)	10% per month	
Late fee for Food Establishments (after 60 days)	Double all fees	
General Environmental Health Hourly Fees	110.00	
Food Advisory Committee Member	-25% annual permit fee	
<b><i>Permits Pro-Rated 50% if Issued After July 1st</i></b>		

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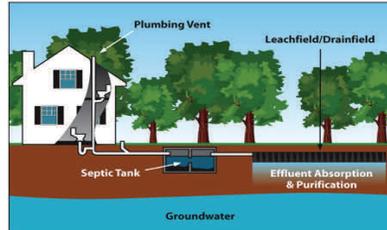
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<b>Solid Waste and Landfills</b>		
Sanitary Landfill- (Open)	6750.00	
Sanitary Landfill- ( <del>Closed</del> Closure Monitoring)	5200.00	
Transfer Stations	1550.00	
Monofill	1100.00	
Impoundments	1100.00	
Inert Fill Permit	1500.00	
Demolition Materials (w/Ecology Approval)	1500.00	
Land Spreading	1500.00	
Recycling Centers	110.00	
Composting Piles	1500.00	
Piles	1500.00	
<del>Sludge Utilization (w/Ecology Approval)</del>	<del>1100.00</del>	
Septage Disposal (w/Ecology Approval)	1100.00	
<u>Soil Contamination Evaluation (Plus additional lab costs)</u>		<u>225.00</u>
<b>Liquid Waste</b>		
Septic System Installers -Initial Permit	325.00	
Septic System Installers- Renewal	285.00	
Septic System Licensing Exam	35.00	
Septic Tank Pumpers – Initial Permit	325.00	
Septic Tank Pumpers- Renewal	285.00	
Septic Pump Truck Inspection and Approval (per vehicle)	175.00	
Active Onsite Sewage Committee Member	-25% permit fee	
<u>OSS Evaluator (Installer and Septic Permit)</u>		<u>\$525.00</u>
<b>Onsite Sewage Systems</b>		
Onsite Sewage Disposal Permit	475.00	
Engineered Onsite Sewage Disposal Permit	580.00	
Homeowner Design and Install	625.00	
Onsite Sewage System Plan Review (Per Hour)	110.00	
Replacement Onsite Sewage System Permit (Requires Site Eval)	355.00	
Simple Repair of On-Site Sewage Disposal Components	125.00	
Repair of On-Site Sewage Disposal Components or System	165.00	
Expansion of Onsite Sewage System	410.00	
Septic Tank Replacement Permit	125.00	
Experimental Onsite Sewage System (Requires Variance)	825.00	
Experimental Onsite Sewage Review (Requires 5 year Renewal)	225.00	
On-Site Sewage Disposal System Site Evaluation (inc-RHC)	350.00	
Each additional site, adjoining property	255.00	
Additional Call-backs and/or Re-inspection (per site/per visit)	225.00	
Variance Request	275.00	
Building Permit Evaluations	55.00	
Site Assessment/ System Verification (Following Evaluation)	110.00	

As Built Collections Fee. For as-built drawings not submitted within <del>a month</del> <u>30 days</u> of final inspection.	55.00	
Renewal of OSS Permit (Annual Fee-5 Year maximum renewal)	325.00	
Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Fee (All new permits)	45.00	
Onsite Sewage Feasibility Assessment (Hourly)	110.00	
<b>Property Sale or Transfer Evaluation</b>		<b>\$40.00</b>
OSS History/Property Research (Fee waived for Permittee)	15.00	
Unpermitted Onsite Sewage System (site evaluation required)	Double all fees	
<b>Water Recreation Facility Permits</b>		
Swimming Pools (Year Round)	285.00	
Swimming Pools (Seasonal- 6 months or less)	265.00	
Each additional pool on same property	185.00	
Spas (Year Round)	335.00	
Spas (Seasonal-6 months or less)	285.00	
Each additional spa on same property	175.00	
Wading Pools	365.00	
Water Play Structures	185.00	
Late Fees		
Late fee for Water Recreation Facilities (up to 60 days)	10% per month	
Late fee for Water Recreation Facilities (after 60 days)	Double all fees	
Water Recreation Facilities Plan Review (hourly)	185.00	
Pre-opening Inspection	275.00	
Pre-Opening Follow up Inspection (If Required)	225.00	
Reinspection Follow-up (Critical Violations)	225.00	
Certified Pool Operator on Full Time Staff	-25% Permit Fee	
<b>Other Environmental Health Fees</b>		
General Environmental Health Hourly Rate	110.00	

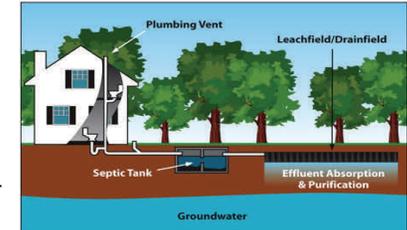
## Tips To Maintaining Your Septic System

- **Regularly inspect and maintain your septic system.** Routine maintenance can lengthen the life of your septic system, contact your Onsite System Maintainer to inspect your system on a regular basis.
- **Pump your septic tank every 3-5 years.** General rule of thumb, the more people using your septic system = increased water flow = your septic tank filling up quicker = more frequent pumping.
- **Be water-wise.** Using less water may increase the life of your septic system. Using too much water is a frequent factor in failed systems. Use low flow faucets and shower fixtures.
- **Landscaping.** Grass is the best cover for your septic tank and drainfield, keep trees at least 30 feet away from your system to avoid roots invading your system and causing clogs. Avoid placing excess water or drainage over the top of the drain field.
- **Learn how to keep your system functioning**—what you can and can't flush or pour down the drain. No pet waste, medications, grease or toxic chemicals. If you have a garbage disposal, don't use it or use it sparingly.



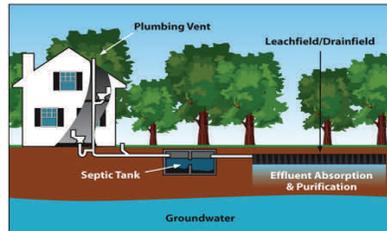
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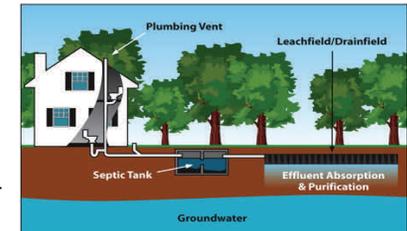
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Dear Homeowner,

As part of the state mandated On-Site Septic Operation and Maintenance Program, all private septic systems consisting of a simple tank and gravity fed drain field are required to have a complete evaluation once every three years. All other systems are required to have an evaluation conducted annually.

**According to our records, your septic system was installed in the last 3-5 years, this postcard is to serve as a reminder to have your system evaluated.**

Please access our website at [whitman-county.org/environmentalhealth](http://whitman-county.org/environmentalhealth) for a list of Permitted On-Site Septic Installers, Pumpers, and System Evaluators. If you do not have access to the internet, please come in to the office for a copy or call 509-397-6280 and we will mail it to you.

Sincerely,  
Whitman County Environmental Health

Whitman County Environmental Health  
310 N Main St  
Colfax, WA 99111  
p. 509-397-6280 f. 509-397-6239

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- (11) Upon receipt of departmental approval or after ninety days without notification, whichever comes first, the local board may implement adopted regulations. The local board shall provide a copy of the adopted local regulations to the department.
- (12) If the department denies approval of local regulations, the local board of health may:
- (a) Resubmit revised regulations for departmental consideration; or
  - (b) Submit a written request for a review of the departmental denial within one hundred twenty days from the date the local board of health receives the written reasons for the denial.
- (13) Upon receipt of written request for review of the departmental denial, the department shall:
- (a) Acknowledge the receipt of the request in writing; and
  - (b) Form a mutually acceptable advisory panel consisting of:
    - (i) One departmental employee;
    - (ii) One employee from a local health jurisdiction other than that which requested the review; and
    - (iii) One member of the technical advisory committee.
- (14) If good faith efforts to reach agreement are unsuccessful, the local board of health may appeal the denial to the Washington state board of health for resolution.
- (15) Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the adoption and enforcement of more stringent regulations by local health departments.
- (16) In the plan required in subsection (1) of this section and in local regulations, the local health officer may address water conservation and include options for the nonpotable reuse of gray water. Any treatment and dispersal of gray water outside the residence or structure must comply with this chapter.

## **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **WAC 246-272A-0020 Applicability.**

- (1) The local health officer:
- (a) Shall apply this chapter to OSS treating sewage and dispersing effluent from residential sources with design flows up to three thousand five hundred gallons per day;
  - (b) May apply this chapter to OSS for nonresidential sources of sewage if treatment, siting, design, installation, and operation and maintenance measures provide treatment and effluent dispersal equal to that required of residential sources.
  - (c) May not apply this chapter to industrial wastewater.

- (1) Measurements and directions accurate to +/- 1/2 foot, unless otherwise determined by the local health officer, to assure the following parts of the OSS can be easily located:
  - (a) All sewage tank openings requiring access;
  - (b) The ends, and all changes in direction, of installed and found buried pipes and electrical cables that are part of the OSS; and
  - (c) Any other OSS component which, in the judgment of the health officer or the designer, must be accessed for observation, maintenance, or operation;
- (2) Location and dimensions of reserve area;
- (3) Record that materials and equipment meet the specifications contained in the design;
- (4) Initial settings of electrical or mechanical devices that must be known to operate the system in the manner intended by the designer or installer; and
- (5) For proprietary products, manufacturer's standard product literature, including performance specifications and maintenance recommendations needed for operation, monitoring, maintenance or repair of the OSS.

**WAC 246-272A-0270 Operation, monitoring, and maintenance - Owner responsibilities.**

- (1) The OSS owner is responsible for operating, monitoring, and maintaining the OSS to minimize the risk of failure, and to accomplish this purpose, shall:
  - (a) Obtain approval from the local health officer before repairing, altering or expanding an OSS;
  - (b) Secure and renew contracts for periodic maintenance where required by the local health jurisdiction;
  - (c) Obtain and renew operation permits if required by the local health jurisdiction;
  - (d) Assure a complete evaluation of the system components and/or property to determine functionality, maintenance needs and compliance with regulations and any permits:
    - (i) At least once every three years for all systems consisting solely of a septic tank and gravity SSAS;
    - (ii) Annually for all other systems unless more frequent inspections are specified by the local health officer;
  - (e) Employ an approved pumper to remove the septage from the tank when the level of solids and scum indicates that removal is necessary;
  - (f) Provide maintenance and needed repairs to promptly return the system to a proper operating condition;
  - (g) Protect the OSS area and the reserve area from:
    - (i) Cover by structures or impervious material;

- (ii) Surface drainage, and direct drains, such as footing or roof drains. The drainage must be directed away from the area where the OSS is located;
  - (iii) Soil compaction, for example by vehicular traffic or livestock; and
  - (iv) Damage by soil removal and grade alteration;
  - (h) Keep the flow of sewage to the OSS at or below the approved operating capacity and sewage quality;
  - (i) Operate and maintain systems as directed by the local health officer;
  - (j) Request assistance from the local health officer upon occurrence of a system failure or suspected system failure; and
  - (k) At the time of property transfer provide to the buyer, maintenance records, if available, in addition to the completed seller disclosure statement in accordance with chapter 64.06 RCW for residential real property transfers.
- (2) Persons shall not:
- (a) Use or introduce strong bases, acids or chlorinated organic solvents into an OSS for the purpose of system cleaning;
  - (b) Use a sewage system additive unless it is specifically approved by the department; or
  - (c) Use an OSS to dispose of waste components atypical of sewage from a residential source.

**WAC 246-272A-0275 Operation, monitoring and maintenance - Food service establishments.**

The local health officer shall require annual inspections of OSS serving food service establishments and may require pumping as needed.

**WAC 246-272A-0280 Repair of failures.**

- (1) When an OSS failure occurs, the OSS owner shall:
- (a) Repair or replace the OSS with a conforming system or component, or a system meeting the requirements of Table IX either on the:
    - (i) Property served; or
    - (ii) Nearby or adjacent property if easements are obtained; or
  - (b) Connect the residence or facility to a:
    - (i) Publicly owned LOSS;
    - (ii) Privately owned LOSS where it is deemed economically feasible; or

Responsibilities and Requirements for owners conveying property.

1. Owners that intend to convey ownership of property that utilizes an onsite sewage system shall submit a current "Onsite Sewage System Evaluation" at least 30 days prior to property transfer.
  - a. Current shall mean within three years for a system consisting of as septic tank and gravity drainfield and annually for all other system.
  - b. Service for an on-site sewage system consisting of a septic tank and gravity drainfield shall be conducted by a Licensed Whitman County On Site Sewage installer, pumper, or evaluator.