Septic Sense
Insights into the fearless flush

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Signs of Septic System Problems

- Effluent surfacing above the components in the yard
- Sewage/rotten egg smells
- Sewage backing up in the house
- Ruts in the lawn along the drainfield lines
What is an Onsite Sewage System?

• An Onsite Sewage System is also known as septic system or OSS
  – Designed to prevent disease by collecting, treating, and disposing of wastewater.
  – Typical system is a septic tank, drainfield and replacement area.
D.A.V.E.

- Accessing As-builts Records

To use this site, you must have any of the following information:
- PTA Number (Property Tax Account Number or Assessor Parcel Number)
- Site Address
- Owner Last Name

For additional information, questions or comments about this website or septic systems, please contact the Snohomish Health District Water & Wastewater Section at 425.339.5250 or wwwquestions@shd.snohomish.wa.gov
ENGLISH HIGHLAND DISTRICT
2011 East River Avenue
Everett, Washington
Phone: Althea 9-2061

LOT APPROVAL SHEET

NAME: October Jones
ADDRESS: 123 Main St.

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED BUILDING:

LOCAL DESCRIPTION: LOT: 12 BLOCK: 8 ADDITION: (City, Town, County, State, Zip)

TYPE OF USE: HOUSE NO. OF BEDROOMS: 3 SIZE OF LOT: 10,000 SQUARE FEET

SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER: PUBLIC SUPPLY

A. SURFACE DRAINAGE

1. Is disposal field site well drained? [ ]

2. Any water courses (ditches, drainage ditches, etc.) through site? [ ]

B. TOPOGRAPHY

1. Any heavy slopes in field area?

2. Will present topsoil in field area be removed or graded before field tiles are installed?

3. Will any fill material be used in the disposal field site? [ ] If yes, how much?

C. SOIL CONDITIONS

1. Has a hole at least 4 feet deep been dug in the disposal field area to determine the type of soil present? [ ]

2. After hole is dug record the soil conditions at the following depths:
   (Round to even, gravel, cays, packed sand, loose, etc.)
   - 12 inches
   - 24 inches
   - 36 inches
   - 48 inches

3. Any ground water encountered before reaching a depth of 4 feet? [ ]
   If yes, at what depth?

D. WATER TEST

1. A simple water test will show how well this soil will drain or percolate water.
   To perform this test:
   1. Dig a hole at least 16 inches deep. Use a shovel or post hole digger - size of hole makes no difference - only depth.
   2. Fill hole with water. Now let all water run out of hole. This makes the ground and will give a more accurate reading.
   3. Again pour water in hole to a height of 12 inches from the bottom. Let water run out until there is just 6 inches from bottom left in hole.
   4. Note how many minutes it takes for this last 6 inches to drain completely.
   5. Divide this time by 6 to obtain the rate per inch.
   6. Enter water test was performed.

I hereby certify the above information to be correct and the above tests were performed by me as prescribed.

Signed: [Signature]
Address: October Jones

NOTE: A septic tank permit is issued on the basis of the above information. If there are any changes or alterations in the above stated soil conditions it may result in the installation being rejected at the time of inspection.
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO INSTALL OR RECONSTRUCT SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITIES

Date: Oct 14, 1957

Permit No.: 2987

John E. Summers
Address: 14427 - 24th Ave. NE

Address of Proposed site: 14427 - 24th Ave. NE

Legal Description: Lot 20 Block 17 Addition Dillerwood

Type of use: 

No. of units: 1

Lot size: 100' x 150'

Septic tank capacity: 250 gals

Diapers field length: 150' x 150'

Sanitary’s sketch:

Date 10/14/57 Inspected by: William Lowe, Inspector

Mr. C.

Approver Mailed To:

Rec. /
“Early Warning” Levels Inside Your Septic Tank

The septic tank should be pumped whenever:

- the bottom of the scum layer is within 3 inches of the bottom of the outlet tee or baffle, or
- the top of the sludge layer is within 12 inches of the bottom of the outlet fitting.
# Suggested Pumping Frequency with normal use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tank size</th>
<th>Number of people in house in years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gallons</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from “Estimated Septic Tank Pumping Frequency” by K. Manci 1984
Selecting a Provider and Pumping vs. Inspecting

- Talk with your neighbors and see who they recommend.
- Get more than one estimate.
- Can they inspect and pump if needed?
- Will they provide you with a written report about the service?
- Pumping Your Septic Tank brochure
- Pumping versus inspecting
Soil Log

View of a machine dug soil log. Each site has specific soil characteristics, such as texture and depth, which are used to determine the type of system that is appropriate for a specific location.

Photo Credit: Kitsap County Health District
Gravelless drainfield trenches with observation ports.

Photo Credit: Kitsap County Health District
Sand Filter System

- It consists of the septic tank, pump chamber with the pump, sand filter & disposal component including a drainfield (or possibly a mound) with its replacement area.
- There are 2 classes – intermittent and recirculating sand (or gravel).
- It can be constructed above or below the ground.
- It provides high level of wastewater treatment.
Break Time

- Up next: Maintenance and Monitoring also known as Care and Feeding!

- If you brought toilet tissue, please see Teri for a jar.
Where could a failure occur?
Label Signal Words

DANGER or POISON
Product is highly toxic

“WARNING”
Product is moderately toxic

“CAUTION”
Product is slightly toxic

“SEPTIC SAFE” or “NON TOXIC”
Marketing terms
Questions?

Contact Information

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