

Second Terralift Policy

Process for Certified Professionals



This policy describes the conditions when we will allow a second application of an air injection method (Terralift) to reduce clogging of the infiltrative surface of an on-site sewage dispersal component.

[Environmental Health Code, Chapter 2](#), Section 33 (B) allows the one-time application of mechanical methods to reduce clogging of the infiltrative surface of a drainfield.

We allow a second application of a Terralift or similar procedure when the conditions described below are present. If a drainfield continues to have operational deficiencies after 2 applications of the Terralift or similar procedure, then you must implement maintenance measures or replace the on-site sewage system.

Conditions for a second Terralift

- The first Terralift was performed more than 5 years ago.
- The soils near the drainfield meet the following conditions:
 - If installed before Nov. 6, 2002: Must have a minimum of 18 inches of vertical separation.
 - If installed after Nov. 6, 2002: Must meet current vertical separation requirements.

Process for requesting a second Terralift

A certified Operation and Maintenance (O&M) firm, septic designer or engineer must submit a Design - Partial Repair application and fee, including:

- A written justification, including a statement affirming the conditions for a second Terralift have been met.
- A signed and dated Terralift Acknowledgement and Agreement form (page 2) from the homeowner.
- The results from a soil test hole near the drainfield.
- A basic site plan showing the area where the Terralift procedure will be applied. Follow the requirements in Chapter 2, Section 28.B, see [Remodel Guidelines](#).
- If there is a record drawing available that clearly shows the location, length, and layout of the existing drainfield, field verify depth of infiltrative surface and vertical separation.
- If there is no record drawing available that clearly shows the location, length, and layout of the existing drainfield, an O&M firm needs to locate it. Field verify depth of infiltrative surface and vertical separation.
- Install inspection ports at each lateral end. This can be done after the Terralift.

Terralift Acknowledgement and Agreement



I, _____, am the legal owner of parcel _____ addressed as _____.

I give consent to _____ (name of certified Operation and Maintenance firm) to use the Terralift procedure on the drainfield of my septic system with Record ID ON _____.

I acknowledge:

- A Terralift may not fix existing problems and could harm the drainfield and lead to its failure.
- If the drainfield fails, I must replace the on-site sewage system. The Health Department may open a Code Enforcement case to ensure compliance.
- My on-site sewage system will require routine inspections after the Terralift.
- Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department does not guarantee the Terralift will be effective and is not responsible for any damage the Terralift may cause to my on-site sewage system.

Signature _____ Date _____