Operation and Maintenance Professionals Meeting

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
April 2, 2024
Welcome!

- Logistics and schedule.
- Staff introductions.
- Organization charts.
- 4 CEUs.
- Evaluation and Policy Inquiry form.
- Raffle.
Agenda

• Operations and maintenance.
  o Where it’s required.
  o Financial assistance program.
  o Partial inspections.
  o Inspections of subsurface drip systems.

• RSS draft policies.
  o Additional connections discovered during RSS.
  o Stress tests for property sale inspections.

• Certified professionals.
  o Proprietary systems requirements.
  o Technician firm policy.
  o Reporting reminders.

• On-site sewage program.
  o Second terralift policy.
  o Tank repair and replacement.
  o Field locate requirements.
Operation & Maintenance in Pierce County

Niels Nicolaisen
Water Quality and Protection
O&M inspection requirements

- All proprietary and pre-treatment on-site sewage systems (OSS) – 1 year.
- Some pressure, gravity, and pump to gravity systems.
  - Includes schools, food establishments, OSS with waivers, non-conforming OSS, and community shared drainfields – 1 or 3 year.
- Project areas, marine recovery areas, and areas of concern for water quality.
- Don’t assume because gravity or pressure – 3 year.
O&M notification areas - All OSS
Lake Tapps O&M

- Started in 2020.
- Notified all septic system owners in Lake Tapps drainage area.
- 3,600 septic systems.
- Now includes inspections of gravity systems and pressure systems (inspections every 3 years).
- 83% inspection compliance rate.
- Partnership with and funding from Cascade Water Alliance.
- Financial assistance available to all property owners.
Key Peninsula O&M

- Started in 2021.
- Notified all septic system owners on Key Peninsula.
- 8,800 septic systems.
- Now includes inspections of gravity systems and pressure systems (inspections every 3 years).
- 89% inspection compliance rate.
- Partnership and funding from Washington State Department of Health and Department of Ecology (Minter Bay watershed only).
- Financial assistance available to all property owners.
Key Peninsula O&M inspection status
North Fork Clover Creek O&M

- Started in 2022.
- Notified all septic system owners in North Fork of Clover Creek.
- 1,000 septic systems.
- All septic systems must be inspected.
- 87% inspection compliance rate.
- Partnership with and funding from Pierce County Surface Water Management.
- Financial assistance available to all property owners.
North Fork O&M inspection status
Pierce County Stormwater Pollution Control O&M

• Started in 2022.
• Notified all septic system owners in 6 drainage basins
  o Alderton Creek, Lynch Creek, Ohop Creek, Salmon Creek, and Spiketon Ditch.
• 4,400 septic systems.
• All septic systems must be inspected.
• Partnership with and funding from Pierce County Surface Water Management.
• Financial assistance available to all property owners.
Alderton Creek inspection status
Lynch inspection status
Ohop Creek inspection status
Spiketon Ditch inspection status
Swan Creek inspection status
Financial Assistance

Where and How

Niels Nicolaisen
Water Quality and Protection
We offer financial assistance

For:
• Routine inspections.
• Tank pumping.
• Riser installation.
• Minor repairs.

Program features:
• Reimburse O&M service company.
• Discount at time of service provided by company.
Financial assistance program areas
How to join the program

• 20-minute phone, in-person, or Teams meeting with Amy or Niels.

• Review Financial Assistance Form for homeowners.
  o How we review and approve applications.

• Reimburse the company, not homeowner.
  o Financial Assistance Participation Agreement Form

• Submit agreement form and W-9.

• Contact us (253) 649-1421 or omfa@tpch.org.
Partial Inspections

Niels Nicolaisen
Water Quality and Protection
Partial reports

• Accept partial reports from online RME as full routine inspection.
  o Will update next inspection due date.

• Notification letters for next inspection based on last inspection date.
  o Even if partial.

• May require follow up with homeowner if:
  o System has deficiencies.
  o Components were missed (like a drainfield).
Questions?

O&M Program
(253) 649-1421
OMseptic@tpchd.org
tpchd.org/om
Inspections of Subsurface Drip Systems

Tina Friedrich
Water Quality and Protection Program
Agenda

• What are drip systems?
• What information do we need?
• What we see in inspection reports.
• What do we want to see in inspection reports?
• Our efforts to update components in RME.
What are drip systems?

Driplines:

- Emitters dose same amount of effluent at different pressures (pressure-compensating).

- Require flushing (returning to tank).
  - Continuous flush.
  - Automatic flush.
What information do we need?

Is the flow through the emitters (field flow) same as at time of asbuilt?

- Lower field flow: clogged dripline?
- Higher field flow: damaged dripline? Some other leak?
- How do you measure field flow?
What information do we need?

Is the flow through the emitters (field flow) same as at time of asbuilt?

- Lower field flow: clogged dripline?
- Higher field flow: damaged dripline? Some other leak?
- How do you measure field flow?
  - Close return valve.
  - Let pressure stabilize.
  - Use flow meter to determine flow.
- Is system dosing properly?
What information do we need?

- Is field flow same as at time of asbuilt?
- Is system dosing properly?
What information do we need?

Is the field flow same as at time of asbuilt?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drainfield (disposal): Drip Irrigation (Continuous Flush)</th>
<th>Fully Inspected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drip field flushed: Field flush valve fully opened 3-5 minutes:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drip Headworks filter cleaned:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre Filter Pressure within normal Range = 15 – 45psi:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Filter Pressure within normal range = Equal to Pre Filter:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return line air release valves functioning properly (N/A = not present):</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check valves in system functioning properly:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flush line Pressure within normal range = Avg.: 10-15psi (minimum 7psi) (Maximum 50psi):</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Flow: Flow to field with field flush valve closed (Gallons Per Minute):</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What information do we need?

Is system dosing properly?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel: Control - 1 Pump, Manufacturer= Enviro-Flo, Inc. - NuWater</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer: Enviro-Flo, Inc.  Model: NuWater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel functioning (including alarm):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: on minutes (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: off hours (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: gallons per dose (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What we see in inspection reports

Drawdown provided instead of field flow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pump: Effluent Pump</th>
<th>Fully Inspected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component appears to be functioning as intended:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controls functioning:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawdown (Inches Per Minute):</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump Vault Filter cleaned (N/A = not present):</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested gallons per minute flow:</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drainfield (disposal): Drip Irrigation (Continuous Flush)</th>
<th>Fully Inspected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drip field flushed: Field flush valve fully opened 3-5 minutes:</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drip Headworks filter cleaned:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre Filter Pressure within normal Range = 15 – 45psi:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Filter Pressure within normal range = Equal to Pre Filter:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return line air release valves functioning properly (N/A = not present):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check valves in system functioning properly:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flush line Pressure within normal range = Avg.: 10-15psi (minimum 7psi) (Maximum 50psi):</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Flow: Flow to field with field flush valve closed (Gallons Per Minute):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What we see in inspection reports

Drawdown instead of field flow, used different number for dosing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pump: Effluent Pump</th>
<th>Fully Inspected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component appears to be functioning as intended:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controls functioning:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawdown (Inches Per Minute):</td>
<td>1/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump Vault Filter cleaned (N/A = not present):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested gallons per minute flow:</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A modification/repair was completed on the component (if yes, provide detail in comments):</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel: Control - 1 Pump</th>
<th>Fully Inspected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel functioning (including alarm):</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: on minutes (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: off hours (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: gallons per dose (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What we see in inspection reports

Incorrect components used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drainfield (disposal): Drip Irrigation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacuum Breakers flushed:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacuum Breakers functioning properly:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area is properly vegetated (No plants with invasive roots or trees):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of surfacing effluent (wet areas in drainfield area, chimney effect) If &quot;Yes&quot; explain in comments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A modification/repair was completed on the component (If yes, provide detail in comments):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What do we want to see in reports?

Continuous flush.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component appears to be functioning as intended:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controls functioning:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawdown (Inches Per Minute):</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump Vault Filter cleaned (N/A = not present):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested gallons per minute flow:</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<td>Drip Headworks filter cleaned:</td>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This component was:</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel functioning (including alarm):</td>
<td>00.07.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: on minutes (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
<td>02.00.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: off hours (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump 1: gallons per dose (override in parentheses - if present):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our efforts to update components

- Lots of drip systems are set up in RME using components that don’t give us the information we need.

- We developed guidance on what components need to enter for each type of system.
Our efforts to update components

Pressure system with trash tank, aerobic treatment unit (ATU), UV disinfection, and subsurface drip (continuous flush)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>User Defined Label</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Serial#</th>
<th>TankSize</th>
<th>SortOrder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TANK: Trash Tank</td>
<td>1-compartment</td>
<td>Local Manufacturer</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerobic Treatment Unit: ATU</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bio-Microbics, Inc.</td>
<td>MicroFAST 0.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANK: Pump Tank</td>
<td>NW Cascade BZP-1200</td>
<td>Local Manufacturer</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump: Effluent Pump</td>
<td></td>
<td>Orenco</td>
<td>PF500511</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disinfection: Ultra Violet</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norweco</td>
<td>Norweco UV</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panel: Control - 1 Pump</td>
<td>EAS-S1</td>
<td>Orenco</td>
<td>S Series</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drainfield (disposal): Drip Irrigation (Continuous Flush)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Netafilm</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our efforts to update components

We developed guidance on what components you need to be for each type of system.

• Over next few months, staff from OSS, O&M, and RSS programs will update existing records for drip systems and lock them.
• We will post the guidance document online.
Questions?

Tina Friedrich
(253) 649-1883
tfriedrich@tpchd.org
Report of System Status
Draft Policies

Tina Friedrich
Water Quality and Protection Program
Additional Connections discovered during RSS Process

Tina Friedrich
Water Quality and Protection Program
Overview

• Unpermitted connections to existing septic systems discovered during the RSS process.
  o Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), guest houses, shops with bathrooms, etc.

• Draft policy. We will post online when final.
  o Clarifies existing requirements and procedures.
3 options:

1. Get connection permitted.
2. Convert structure into what was originally approved.
3. Show us documentation of previous permitting.
Structures generating additional flows

• They have bedrooms, bath(s), with or without kitchen.
  o ADUs.
  o Apartments over shop/garage.
  o Guest house (bedrooms and bath but without kitchen).

• Option 1. Septic designer/engineer submits remodel application with design.
Structures generating additional flows

• Option 2: Convert into originally approved structure:
  ○ If previously not plumbed:
    ▪ Return into dry storage:
      – Remove plumbing fixtures.
      – Cap water supply.
      – Cap sewage line.
    ▪ Verification of work done.
      – O&M company verifies work.
      – Plumbing receipts.
      – Photos.
Structures generating additional flows

• Option 2: Convert into originally approved structure:
  o If previously plumbed:
    ▪ Case-by-case.
    ▪ Use building and Health Department records to determine what was previously approved.
    ▪ Structure can have sink and/or full bath.
    ▪ No provisions for cooking, eating, or any bedrooms.

• Option 3: Provide documentation of previous permitting.
Structures not generating additional wastewater flows

• No bedrooms, no kitchen.
  ○ Shop/garage with bath.
  ○ RV connection.

• Option 1: Get the connection permitted.
  ○ Locate system.
  ○ Office remodel or field remodel (if reserve area has been impacted).
Structures not generating additional flows

• Option 2: Convert into originally approved structure.
  o Return into dry storage.
  o Verify work is done.

• Option 3: Provide documentation of previous permitting.
Stress Tests for Property Sale Inspections

Tina Friedrich
Water Quality and Protection Program
Overview

• Why?
• Draft policy. We will post online, once final.
• Required for all property sales inspections of gravity and pump to gravity systems.
How much water?

• Systems in use:
  o 120 gallons per connected residence.

• System not in use 24 hours prior to test.
  o With record drawing: Design flow: Number of bedrooms multiplied by 120 gallons.
  o Without record drawing: Number of bedrooms on RSS application or real estate listing multiplied by 120 gallons.
Procedure

• Place hose into outlet of tank (or distribution box).
• Or place hose into tank.
• Flowmeter at faucet or 5-gallon bucket test.
• Report through OnlineRME:
  o How many gallons did drainfield accept?
  o In what timeframe?
Unsatisfactory test

- When placing hose into the outlet pipe/d-box.
  - Water returns to tank or d-box during test.

- When filling the tank itself.
  - Tank liquid levels don’t return to initial static level within 30 minutes following test.

- May require further investigation, remediation or system replacement.
Questions?

Tina Friedrich
(253) 649-1883
tfriedrich@tpchd.org
10 Minute Break
Certified Professionals

Renée Avelino
Certified Professionals
Code Enforcement
Proprietary systems

Requires manufacturer or patient holder approval:
• O&M Specialist.
  o Technician supervision allowed.
• Installers.
  o Supervision allowed, if approved to install or maintain components.
• Professionals must email approval document to oscp@tpchd.org to receive proprietary systems credit.
  o Letter, email, and CEU certificate.
How to report specialists supervising technicians:

**ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM INSPECTION REPORT**

*Inspected: 02/20/2024 - Inspection Type: PROPERTY SALE - Correction Status: Some Corrections Made*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Work Performed By</th>
<th>Submitted 03/09/2024 by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Advanced Septic Services, Inc.</td>
<td>Dillon Goodman</td>
<td>Richard Postell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMMENTS & GENERAL INSPECTION NOTES**

*Deficiencies Noted: deficiencies must be corrected to ensure proper longevity of the Onsite Sewage System.*

- Inspected and pumped for property sale
- Connector for air hose to FAST blower is cracked, but is not causing any problems at this time
- UV was not lighting up, did not have the proper bulb to replace it with at this time
- Work was performed by Matt Vanvolkenburg under direct supervision of Dillon Goodman
Proprietary systems and services list

- AdvanTex
- AIRR
- Biomax
- BioMicrobics
- BioBarrierNayadic
- Nibbler
- Nibbler Jr/Lite
- Norweco/Singulair
- NuWater
- O&M Specialist
- Portable Toilet Pumper
- Pressure Distribution
- Salcor
- Sand Filter
- Septic Pumper
- Subsurface Drip
- White Water
Septic systems inspection types:
- Non-proprietary only.
- Complete RSS process.
- Need O&M Specialist to inspect additional system types.

Photo credit: pumper.com/online_exclusives/2023/02/lady-pumpers-get-the-job-done-for-indianas-lappin-septic-service
Coming soon: Technician only firm policy

Technicians can (without specialist supervision):

• Inspect (evaluate) or service non-proprietary OSS components.
  o Includes gravity, pressure, and sand filter systems.
  o Add or replace:
    o Sewer line clean-out, tank lid, risers, or riser lid.
    o Tank baffle or outlet filter.
    o Check valve or quick disconnect in a pump tank.

• O&M technician should defer to O&M specialist for inspection or adjustment of any component they’re not certified to inspect or adjust, to include EMMR work.
Supervision: Work by a technician

ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM INSPECTION REPORT
Inspected: 01/31/2024 - Inspection Type: EMMR - Correction Status: No corrections made
Company: HEMLEY’S SEPTIC TANK CLEANING, INC
Work Performed By: Allen Young
Submitted 02/18/2024 by: Julia Christman

COMMENTS & GENERAL INSPECTION NOTES
Deficiencies Noted: deficiencies must be corrected to ensure proper longevity of the Onsite Sewage System.

- Used mini excavator to dig up area where leaking to surface. Found severed pipe. Repaired pipe.
- Turned on pump and effluent started leaking on the next level up. Exposed and found leaking out of bottom of pipe. Fixed pipe and turned pump on again.
- Found a different spot of the pipe is leaking. Pipe has cracks all over.
- Advised owner of need to contact designer. System has failed.

Supervised by J. Hemley
OnlineRME reporting

Most frequent report requests:
• Unlocks.
• Fee waiver.
• Move a report.
• Late fee waiver.
Report unlock requests

Key points to remember:

• Firms must request an unlock from the Service History page in Site Work History tab in OnlineRME.
• State the reason for your unlock request before you submit your request.
• We may decline your request.
• Relock your report after you update the report.
# Report unlock requests

## Unlock Reports

The report has been unlocked:

- **Report Type:** [Dropdown]
- **ReportID:** [Field]
- **Comments:** [Field]

[Unlock Report] [Decline Unlock]

Export History

The requester will be notified of unlock request result. Comments will be included in the notification email and will be saved for historical look-up. Declining the request will email the requester without comments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select</th>
<th>Report Type</th>
<th>Report ID</th>
<th>Request reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OSS Inspection Report</td>
<td>1220256</td>
<td>Need to change report type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OSS Inspection Report</td>
<td>1268562</td>
<td>entered the wrong month. Work done 3/9/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OSS Inspection Report</td>
<td>1263666</td>
<td>Need to remove deficiency. tank lid is accessible. only small amount of lid is under concrete walkway.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[View] [Decline]
### Fee Exemption Requests

Results limited to the top 500 records.

Current View: **Requests Pending**

**Export To**  **Excel**

#### InspType | Waiver Request Reason
--- | ---
Pumping | pumped for relief customer waiting for new syst/repair.
Pumping | Pumped for decommission
ROUTINE | intermittent inspection
PROPERTY SALE | inspection with fees paid 10/30/2023
Pumping | Tank has not been serviced in over 10 yrs
Pumping | Routine maintenance
Pumping | Pump for tank decommission
Pumping | fee paid
Pumping | fee paid
Pumping | **THIS REPORT WAS REQUESTED BY PIERCE COUNTY**

### Fee Exemption Requests Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>JurisdictionID</th>
<th>Lastroute</th>
<th>LastPaid</th>
<th>Waive</th>
<th>Deny</th>
<th>Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>718 42ND AVE NW</td>
<td>Gig Harbor</td>
<td>ON0169702</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2512 57th STCT NW</td>
<td>Gig Harbor</td>
<td>ON0173083</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8312 34th ST E</td>
<td>Edgewood</td>
<td>ON0102950</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>14020 131st ST NW</td>
<td>Gig Harbor</td>
<td>ON0007985</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20238 101ST ST E</td>
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<td>ON0192411</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 Meridian AVE E</td>
<td>Milton</td>
<td>ON0218578</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6321 109th ST NW</td>
<td>Gig Harbor</td>
<td>ON0097763</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
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<tr>
<td>17319 63rd Street CT NW</td>
<td>Vaughn</td>
<td>ON0135414</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6611 Lombard Dr NW</td>
<td>Gig Harbor</td>
<td>ON0167389</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18416 78th AVE E</td>
<td>Puyallup</td>
<td>ON0179886</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fee waiver logic - Reasons for denial

Report doesn’t qualify for a fee waiver.

- Last paid pump report was over 6 months, and last routine report was over 365 days.
- Last paid report was over 365 days. I waived the late fee.
- Last paid report was over 365 days, and we didn’t collect fee prior to unlock request.
- Properties with the same parcel, address, and 2 separate OSS systems require one report and fee per system.
- Wrong report type submitted. Request an unlock, then submit a routine inspection report.
- Last report submitted was a no fee required service report. Last paid report was over 365 days.
OnlineRME Reporting User Guide

- Available online.
- Fee waiver.
- Unlocks.
### Fee work logic

- **Report of System Status Guidance.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Conditions</th>
<th>OSS Configurations</th>
<th>RSS Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 structures</td>
<td>2 separate OSS (2 Drainfields).</td>
<td>2 evaluations, 2 reporting fees, 2 RSS applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 structures</td>
<td>Separate tanks, 1 shared drainfield.</td>
<td>1 evaluation and reporting fee, 1 RSS application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 structures</td>
<td>Shared tanks and drainfield.</td>
<td>1 evaluation and reporting fee, 1 RSS application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Single-Family Residence (SFR)</td>
<td>2 OSS serving structure.</td>
<td>1 evaluation per system, 1 reporting fee and 1 RSS application. Waive additional reporting fees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Multi-Family (Duplex, Triplex, 4plex, etc.) Not Condo.</td>
<td>2 or more OSS serving a structure.</td>
<td>1 evaluation per system, 1 reporting fee per system and 1 RSS application per system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Conditions</td>
<td>OSS Configurations</td>
<td>RSS Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Community System (SFR, Condos or Commercial) | Owner maintains individual tank(s) and connects to community system (shared components). | • 1 evaluation of owner-maintained tank(s) with pumping, 1 reporting fee, 1 RSS application per unit.  
• Community/shared components must be up-to-date or we require inspection. |
| Community System (MF, Condos or Commercial) | Management entity maintains all OSS components or all components are shared.            | • 1 evaluation and reporting fee per OSS, 1 RSS application per unit.  
• Tank pumping not required.  
• Community/shared components must be up-to-date or we require inspection. |
| Mobile Home Park               | Multiple OSS.                                                                     | • 1 evaluation and reporting fee per OSS.  
• 1 RSS application per mobile home park.  
• If units were converted to condos, then an RSS is required for unit selling. |
General RME reporting fee requests

Contact Renée Avelino to:

• Dispute a fee waiver denial.
• Dispute a late fee charge.
• Request a report fee credit. (must occur before payment.)
Questions?

Renée Avelino
ravelino@tpchd.org
OSCP@tpchd.org
(253) 377-5737
On-Site Sewage Systems

Robert Suggs
On-Site Sewage and Drinking Water Resource Program
Overview

• Second terralift policy.
• Tank repair and replacement.
  o Pressure.
  o Pump to gravity.
  o ATU and septic tanks.
• Field locate requirements.
Second Terralift Policy

• Describes process for when we allow a second terralift.
• Includes an acknowledgment and agreement form.
• Conditions for a second terralift
  o The first terralift was performed more than 5 years ago.
  o 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 O&M firm, septic designer or engineer must submit a Design – Partial Repair application.

- A written justification.
- A signed and dated Terralift Acknowledgement and Agreement form.
- Results from a soil test hole near the drainfield.
- A basic site plan showing the area where the Terralift procedure will be applied.
- 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.
- 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.
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 ______________________
Questions?

Robert Suggs

(253) 649-1804

rsuggs@tpchd.org
• If a septic or pump tanks is not watertight and appears to be leaking, you have two options to address this:
  o Repair the tank.
  o Replace the tank.
Tank repairs - Draft

- Certified Septic Service Providers can repair tanks twice before they need to be replaced.
- After repairing the tank, they need to perform a water tightness test.
- Providers need to report their findings in OnlineRME and state how long the water-tightness test was, 24hrs or 8hrs.
Tank repair – Draft cont.

Water tightness test:

• If the residence is occupied:
  o Fill the tank to the invert of the outlet.
  o Ask the residents to leave the house, if possible, for 8 hours.
  o Come back after 8 hours to determine if the water level has fallen.
  o If residents cannot leave the house for 8 hours, contact the Health Department to determine alternative arrangements.

• If the system is not in use:
  o Fill the tank to the invert of the outlet.
  o Come back after 24 hours to determine if the water level has fallen.
Tank replacement - Draft

- Site plans and record drawings must meet requirements outlined in Environmental Health Code Chapter 2.

- New tanks must meet criteria defined in Environmental Health Code Chapter 2, WAC 246-272A, RS&G documents, and List of Registered Sewage Tanks.

- We require a full routine or startup O&M inspection of all components.
  - Stress tests for gravity or pump to gravity systems are required when the tank being replaced had not been water-tight and the liquid level had been low.
  - No record drawing available, we will require a locate.
  - Locates required for any drainfield without clear records within 100ft of surface water.
  - We may require dye testing.
Tank replacement – Draft cont.

• You must include startup inspection information on the record drawing.
  o The installer must verify the system is operational before you submit your record drawing.

• Certified septic professionals must install outlet filters on all septic tanks.
  o Outlet filters should meet requirements in Pressure Distribution Systems RS&G 2.3.3.

• A designer must justify the adequacy of any system where tanks are replaced for remodel applications and no previous permitting records are available.

• Refer to the One-Compartment Septic Tanks Policy when a one-compartment septic tank is present.
Pump tank replacement – Pressure - Draft

• Installers may apply for pump tank replacement if the new tank will be the same size, 1000gal. minimum, and similar elevation as the original tank and system meets current O&M requirements.
  o Tank must meet current sizing requirements.

• Designers must submit the application if tank size, elevation, etc. need to change from the original.
  o Require a full O&M startup inspection with a pressure test at time of installation.
  o Sweeps must be installed if not present.
  o All tanks, including tanks that you don’t replace, must have risers.
  o Ball valves must be accessible.
  o System must be time-dosed at record drawing. Install control panel if not present.
Pump tank replacement – Pump to gravity - Draft

• Designers or installers may apply for pump tank replacement when a timer panel is present. Designers must submit the application if a timer panel is not present.
  o Tank must meet current sizing requirements.
  o Pump basins must be replaced by a 1000gal. minimum tank per Dosing Gravity Drainfield Systems RS&G.
    o Consult with Health Department staff if site constraints do not allow a 1000gal. tank.

• Require a full O&M start up inspection with exposure and inspection of the distribution box at time of installation. Require the installation of a timer panel when not present. Verify effluent reaches d-box after new tank is installed.

• A provider must take measures to dissipate the velocity of the influent delivered by a pump.
ATU and tank replacement -Draft

• Submit ATU tank and sand filter unit replacement applications as a Partial Repair application. This includes a change to a different treatment product.

• Designers must submit these applications when:
  o The ATU is being replaced with a different make, model, or capacity.
  o A sand filter is being replaced with another sand filter or a different treatment level B device.

• Installers may submit applications to replace ATU tanks when they are the same make, model, and capacity as the existing ATU.
  o Replacement should occur in the same area/elevation as the previous tank(s).
Septic tank replacement - Draft

- Designers or installers may submit septic tank replacement applications.
- Installer to verify effluent reaches d-box after new tank is installed.
Locate requirements - Draft

• Helps estimate septic system capacity—used to expand, replace or add a residential or commercial structure served by an existing OSS or change the use of a structure served by an existing OSS (Sec 31, table 7).
  • If the system is inadequate for the proposal, we may require a new septic design.
  • A septic professional should locate the system and draw a site or design plan.
  • Drawings must provide clear and accurate information about all septic components:
    • Tank(s) size, material and number of compartments.
    • Pumps.
    • Transport line.
    • Drainfield location, length and depth of each lateral and material used.
• The drawing must also include:
  • The septic professionals name and title/license.
  • The method used to locate and identify the components.
Stress test - Draft

- Stress tests provide a snapshot on the functionality of the septic system and do not determine longevity.
- They need to be completed within 24 hours.
- Certified septic professionals must document any variation from the requirements listed below.
- Guidance on stress tests in RSS draft policies section of this presentation.
Questions?

Robert Suggs
(253) 649-1804
rsuggs@tpchd.org
15 Minute Break
Q&A Time
Raffle Time!
Reminders!

- Sign out for CEUs.
- Return program inquiry form.
- Return evaluation form.