Online Applications Now Available

Skip a trip to the Health Department and submit your On-Site and Water Program applications from your computer. Several septic designers tested our new online system called Envision Connect Online (ECO). Now it’s ready to use for your new design, repair, tank replacement, remodel and well applications.

To get started:

1. **Create an account.** Follow these instructions.
2. **Create your application.** Enter information directly into ECO.
   - Choose the application type and fee. This helps us filter for field or office review.
   - Complete the Project Description. We use this to determine the type of review and if we need a field inspection.
   - Include the email address of the person who will pay the application fee.
   - Attach necessary documents (site plan, etc.).
3. **Submit the application.** Print or save the application summary for your records.
4. **Make a payment.** You will receive an email with a link to the payment page, including the account and invoice number. You can pay directly or forward to your customer. Once paid, technical staff will receive the application for review.

Questions, concerns, or suggestions? Contact our technology experts, Laurel Jellison at ljellison@tpchd.org or Brad Costello at bcostello@tpchd.org.
Individual or Public Water System: What’s the Difference?

The two types of water systems have specific functions that distinguish them.

**Individual Water System**—a well that provides drinking water to:
- A single family dwelling.
- A single family dwelling and an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) on the same parcel.

**Public Water System**—serves more than one household. Public water systems fall into one of two categories: Group A or Group B. The type depends on the number of connections and people the system serves.

Property use may change over time and an existing individual water system may no longer meet requirements. The following changes on a property could require a public water system:
- A child care business or in-home daycare facility.
- Boarding or adult family homes.
- Temporary worker housing.
- Transient accommodations.
- Recreational vehicle parks.
- Schools, camps or campgrounds.
- Temporary events.
- Food establishments or commissaries (i.e., for food trucks).
- Bed and breakfast operations.
- A boundary line adjustment that puts the existing single family dwelling and ADU on separate parcels.
- Any in-home business that the public can access and pay a fee for a service.

Not sure whether your proposal requires a public water system? Contact the drinking water program at ehdinkingwater@tpchd.org or (253) 798-6470.

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**Chapter 2 Revisions Are Underway**

A subcommittee from the Industry Advisory Group (IAG) formed in June 2017 to discuss upcoming revisions to Chapter 2, On-Site Sewage Regulations. They have discussed outstanding issues that relate to septic service company activities. Topics discussed include:
- Extended Maintenance and Minor Repair notification and reporting.
- Reporting fees and penalties.
- Additional language related to collection of OnlineRME fees.
- Reporting errors.
- Reporting procedure when a company hasn’t received payment.

Want to know more? Contact Gary Porter at gporter@tpchd.org or (253) 798-6569.
**OSS Compliance Corner**

**Collaborating on a project? Who should report on Online-RME?**

When On-Site professionals work together on a job, how do you handle the OnlineRME? If the repair doesn’t require a permit, the certified firm registered with OnlineRME must report the work performed. (Chapter 2, On-Site Sewage sections: 43, 48B, C, and F).

To avoid reporting violations, we advise Operation and Maintenance (O&M) firms contracted by installers, designers or professional engineers (PE) to:

1. Confirm which party will report maintenance or repair work before any work starts.
2. Identify who has an active OnlineRME ID:
   - Only O&M certified firms are required to have an account ID.
   - Installers need an ID if work extends beyond installations to septic maintenance and repairs.
   - OnlineRME ID isn’t a requirement for installers who only complete permitted installations.

The Health Department doesn’t certify designers and PE’s. They aren’t authorized to complete non-permitted repairs or maintenance on Pierce County septic systems and don’t need to report work via OnlineRME.

All certified firms that perform O&M inspections, repairs and pumpings need current OnlineRME accounts. Find detailed instructions in the OnlineRME Reporting Pierce County User Guide.

Questions? Contact Renée Avelino at ravelino@tpchd.org (253) 798-2831.

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**Use 3-D Septic Models to Educate Your Customers**

For non-professionals, a septic system might be hard to visualize. That’s why we created interactive 3-D models of healthy and unhealthy septic systems (pump and gravity). The models show the structure of the system and provide tips on septic maintenance. View the models at www.tpchd.org/pumpseptic and www.tpchd.org/gravityseptic.

You can share the models with customers on computers or mobile devices, or embed them on websites.

Questions? Contact Adriana Lippy at alippy@tpchd.org or (253) 798-4399.
Staff Transitions

Rich Dickerson is now enjoying his retirement. His last day at the Health Department was July 31, 2017. We welcome Jeremy Bush to fill Rich’s shoes as our new Individual Well Lead.

Jeremy previously worked in the Food and On-Site programs. Most recently he was with the Tacoma Smelter Plume Program. He is rapidly learning his new role answering questions from our customers on well siting and construction as well as conducting inspections. Welcome Jeremy!

We also hired two temporary staff to conduct property sale inspections. Property sale inspections are up from last year so additional staff allows us to keep up with the application demands.

Questions? Contact Gary Porter at gporter@tpchd.org or (253) 798-6569.

On-Site Insight

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**On-Site Sewage, Well Permitting and Code Enforcement Staff**

<table>
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**FREE WORKSHOP FOR HOMEOWNERS**

Help spread the word to your customers! We invite Key Peninsula residents to attend a septic system workshop.

Participants will learn septic system basics, troubleshooting tips, and the importance of septic maintenance and routine inspections.


Thursday, Oct. 12, 2017
5:30-8 p.m.
Key Peninsula Civic Center
17010 S. Vaughn Road KPN
Vaughn, WA 98394

Questions?
Contact Jamie Zorich at jzorich@tpchd.org.