



Photo Credit: Greenworks of Washington.

Options Expand for Pump Truck and Above Ground Tank Inspections

Effective Sept. 1, 2017, Washington On-Site Sewage Association (WOSSA) began truck and above ground tank inspections.

WOSSA can complete truck inspections at their office or come to your site. WOSSA's standardized inspection form meets Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Environmental Health Code, Chapter 2 requirements. The inspection cost is the same as the fees listed in the annual Health Department's fee schedule. WOSSA will collect the inspection fee from the Certified O&M or installation firm during the inspection.

After WOSSA completes the inspection, they will give you documents to submit to us within 10 business days. WOSSA will also keep electronic and paper inspection records for up to seven years.

Contact WOSSA at (253) 770-6594 to schedule an appointment.

Friendly Reminder

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is a public agency, and any information you share with us by email or on paper is a public record. We frequently respond to public records request on a variety of topics.

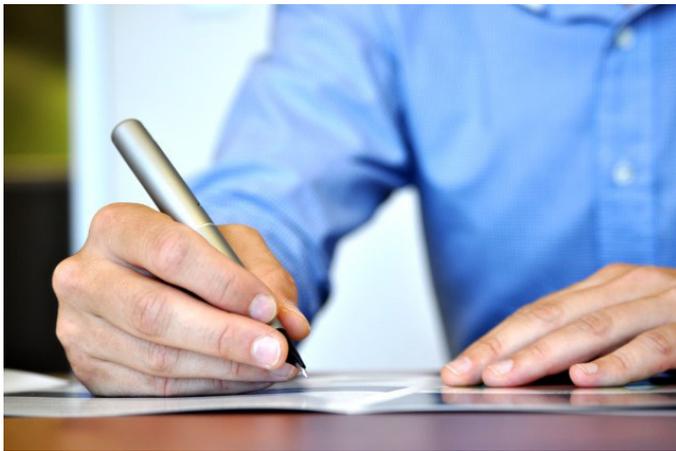
WOSSA Now Completes Truck Inspections

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The Critical Area Approval Process Explained



Pierce County Planning and Land Services (PALS) and the Health Department want to clarify the sign-off process to make it easier for you and eliminate confusion. Review the following conditions and requirements before you submit applications:

Critical area sign-off for designs or individual well applications:

- Email a stamped copy of your design plan to Deb Mershon at dmersho@co.pierce.wa.us and Scott Sissons at ssisson@co.pierce.wa.us.
- Don't take plans to the Annex for review.
- Include the checklist and the sign-offs in both the septic design application and the well application when you submit to the Health Department. If you don't submit these with both applications, we will require a resubmittal fee.

Septic designs on a proposed subdivision:

- You don't need to get critical area sign off before you submit designs to the Health Department.
- Pierce County or the municipality reviewing the plat will review critical areas and show them on the recorded plat.

Well site applications on a proposed subdivision:

- You don't need critical area sign off before you submit the application, unless you want to drill the wells prior to plat recording.
- Email stamped copies of the well site plan to Deb Mershon at dmersho@co.pierce.wa.us and Scott Sissons at ssisson@co.pierce.wa.us if you want to drill the wells before plat recording.
- Don't bring the plans to the Annex for review.

Anything other than "No" listed under development moratorium on the critical areas checklist:

- Email the plans to Adonais Clark at aclark@co.pierce.wa.us and submit his response with both your on-site and individual well applications.
- We have found inaccuracies with the critical areas checklist report and must receive written approval or a sign-off from PALS to proceed.

Questions?

Contact Leigh McIntire at lmcintire@tpchd.org.

Successful Septic System Show-and-Tell

We had a large turnout for our Oct. 12 septic system workshop on Key Peninsula. More than 75 homeowners attended, including first-time homeowners, families and people of different ages. Participants learned septic system basics, troubleshooting tips and the importance of septic maintenance and routine inspections.

People had positive feedback about the workshop. One person wrote, "The speakers were very knowledgeable and engaging. Thank you so much for coming out here to educate us!" A special thank you to FloHawks, A Advanced Septic Services and Cooper Consulting for their participation. Questions? Contact Jamie Zorich at jzorich@tpchd.org.

OSS Compliance Corner

Pump truck inspection reports change for 2018

Starting with next year's certification cycle, we will accept copies of your paid King County inspection reports at no additional cost. This applies to certified on-site pump truck operators who submit truck inspection reports from King County.

Complete these steps before you submit your recertification documents:

- Inform King County inspectors that you will submit their truck inspection report for our annual certification.
- King County inspectors will:
 1. Verify your Health Department pumper registration numbers are on your truck(s).
 2. Record your Health Department permit number on their form.
 3. Sign their initials next to the permit number.

If your King County pump truck inspection reports are unsatisfactory or incomplete, we will send you a letter asking you to correct any deficiencies.

Reminder: Feb. 15, 2018 is the due date for all on-site certification documents and fees.

Questions? Contact Renée Avelino at ravelino@tpchd.org.

Certification Renewals Are On Their Way

Our 2018 certification renewal packets for septic professionals are coming soon. We simplified the applications and hope they are clearer.

Want to avoid late fees? Submit your completed applications to the Health Department by Feb. 15, 2018. We will apply a \$30 late fee to each late application in addition to the \$125 firm late fee.

Make sure to complete the appropriate forms:

Septic firms:

- Certificate of liability insurance.
- Valid contractor license.
- Completed application and fee.

Septic professionals:

- Your training documentation.
- Completed application and fee.

Questions? Contact Sara Bird at sbird@tpchd.org.



Welcome our Newest Team Member



Jacob Smith joined the On-Site Sewage and Well Permitting team this fall. He received a degree in Environmental Soil Science with a minor in Watershed Science from the University of Tennessee. After college, Jacob conducted soil surveys across 12 million acres throughout Idaho and Washington for the United States Forest Service.

He comes from Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Water Resources On-Site program. Jacob moved to Tacoma to enjoy being near mountains and the great wildlife of the Pacific Northwest.

Welcome Jacob!



2018 CERTIFIED PROFESSIONALS WORKSHOP

Join us for our annual operations and maintenance workshops. Stay up to date on current industry regulations, practices and news.

CEU credits available.

- Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ; or
- Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018
8 :30-a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Auditorium
3629 S. D St.
Tacoma, WA 98418

Register online at bit.ly/CPWorkshop2018.

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

On-Site Sewage, Well Permitting and Code Enforcement Staff

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