



## On-Site Phase 1 Code Revisions Approved

## On-Site Sewage Code Revisions in Effect

On July 18, 2018, Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health passed resolution 2018-4560. The phase one changes to Environmental Health Code, Chapter 2:

- Reflect updates to state and local codes.
- Clarify language.
- Improve customer experience.
- Strengthen opportunities for health equity.
- Reduce unnecessary actions.
- Improve administrative efficiencies, while protecting and improving public health and the environment.

### Here's what the code changes mean to you:

- You no longer need to notify us in advance for Extended Maintenance and Minor Repairs (EMMR).
- You now have 30 days to upload EMMRs into OnlineRME.
- Designers can complete a two-bedroom accessory dwelling unit without a waiver/variance.

View the revised code, a summary of changes and a timeline for future Environmental Health code changes at [www.tpchd.org/coderevision](http://www.tpchd.org/coderevision).

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## Free Septic System Workshop in Key Peninsula

Help spread the word to your customers!

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

Register online at: [bit.ly/SepticWorkshop2018](http://bit.ly/SepticWorkshop2018)

Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018  
6-8 p.m.

The Longbranch Improvement Club

4312 Key Peninsula Hwy S  
Longbranch, WA 98351

Questions? Contact Jamie Zorich at [jzorich@tpchd.org](mailto:jzorich@tpchd.org).

## Provide input on our 2019 Fee Schedule

We want to know how proposed changes to our 2019 fees may affect you or your business.

We anticipate fee changes to the following programs:

- Food and Community Safety.
- Drinking Water.
- On-site Sewage.
- Underground Storage Tank Cleanup.

Our fees can change for a variety of reasons:

- Increase or decrease in staff compensation and benefits.
- Increase or decrease in administrative overhead.
- Expanding or shrinking services.

The Board will consider proposed fees at their October and November meetings. Learn more about and comment our fees at

[www.tpchd.org/feeupdate](http://www.tpchd.org/feeupdate).

## OSS Compliance Corner—OnlineRME Unlock Requests

As of April 2018, Renée Avelino is the point person to unlock requests in OnlineRME. Her goal is to respond to unlock requests Tuesdays-Fridays. George Waun, Emma McDaniel and Kristen Farley serve as back-ups when Renée is unavailable.

We can resolve unlock requests quickly when you provide the following information in your request statement:

- Clear details about why you need an unlock.
- If Health Department staff ask you to unlock a report, add their name or initials to comments, and why you're requesting the unlock.
- Don't request an unlock for reports you have already paid. Submit a follow-up report instead.

We assess each unlock request on a case by case basis. Make sure the details you provide match the report information or property details.

We may contact you for additional information about your request before we approve or decline the unlock. Questions? Contact Renée Avelino at [ravelino@tpchd.org](mailto:ravelino@tpchd.org).

## Expanded Services at Pierce County Planning and Land Services

The Health Department and Pierce County Planning and Public Works (PPW) are teaming up to expand on-site and well permitting services.

We are changing the way we work together so our shared customers can do their business with more ease and convenience. The Health Department currently has 2.0 FTE stationed at Pierce County Annex Development Center. This fall, we will move three additional staff to expand our on-site septic and drinking water permitting activities.

Our increased presence at the Development Center will allow greater coordination with PPW reviewers. We want to create vibrant communities, foster an entrepreneurial climate, and deliver effective and efficient government for our residents—all while protecting the health of our residents and environment. Questions? Contact Jessica Gehle at [jgehle@tpchd.org](mailto:jgehle@tpchd.org).

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## New Water Resource Program Manager

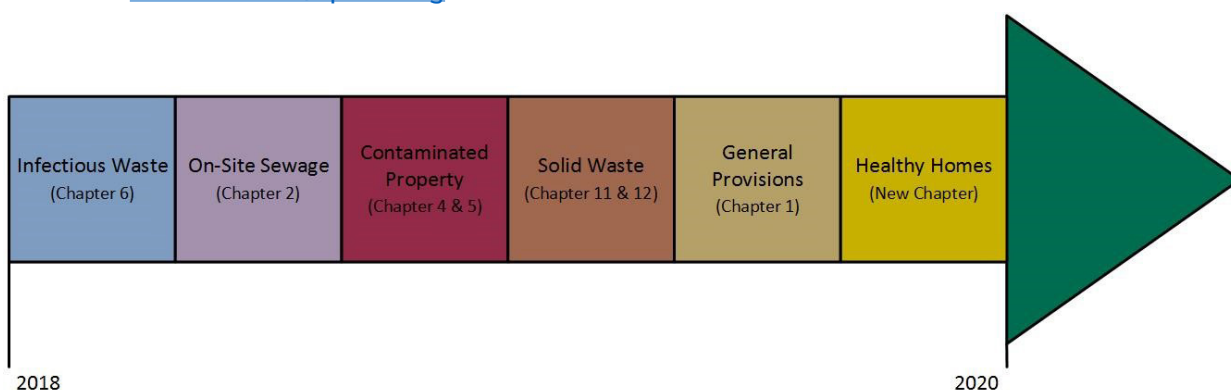
Welcome Chrissy Cooley as our new Water Resources Program Manager! Chrissy brings several years of management and environmental experience to this position. At Pierce Conservation District, she developed the mission, vision, funding and partnerships for the new Climate Resiliency program. She also served as the Puyallup Watershed Initiatives Agricultural Community of Interest coordinator and Pacific Lutheran University Sustainability and Resource manager.

Chrissy has an undergraduate degree in Environmental Policy and Management from Ohio State University and Master of Business Administration from Pacific Lutheran University. She serves as a Tacoma Public Utilities board member and is past chair of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.

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## Workgroup Volunteers for Phase Two Code Revision

Provide input to our environmental health code revision. Phase two revisions for Chapter 2 will begin in fourth quarter 2018. To help inform the process, we will form a workgroup with PPW and industry professionals. We need at least one designer and one operations and maintenance specialist to join our workgroup. We expect the workgroup to meet about five times. Want to participate? Contact Tony Ohrazda at [coderevision@tpchd.org](mailto:coderevision@tpchd.org).





## Farewell to Gary Porter

After 35 years of dedicated service, Gary Porter retired from the Health Department July 31. Gary served as the On-site Sewage System (OSS) Program Manager for the past seven years. Gary plans to enjoy time with family, travel with his wife and catch-up on projects around the house. Good luck Gary. We wish you all the best!

We've interviewed candidates and hope to fill the OSS Program Manager position by September. Our OSS Supervisors—George, Leigh and Randall will split responsibilities in the interim.

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

	On-Site General Information	(253) 798-6470	<a href="mailto:EHsepticssystems@tpchd.org">EHsepticssystems@tpchd.org</a>
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### DEPARTMENT CLOSURES

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department offices will be closed in observance of these holidays:

- Sept. 3  
Labor Day
- Nov. 12  
Veterans Day  
Observed
- Nov. 22 & 23  
Thanksgiving
- Dec. 24 & 25  
Christmas Eve and  
Christmas Day



Tacoma-Pierce County  
**Health Department**  
*Healthy People in Healthy Communities*

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