

Date of service ___/___/___

RE: Septic System Failure/Surfacing Sewage Notification

Dear Resident:

During a recent service call your septic system professional observed surfacing sewage on your property* and was not able to fix the problem that day.

Septic system professionals are required to **report any septic system failures/surfacing sewage to the Health Department** (Environmental Health Code, Chapter 2, Section 48, B, 1).

Bacteria and other pathogens in sewage can cause illnesses in those exposed. This happens because sewage can find its way into the water people drink, lakes, streams and shellfish people eat. For these reasons, it is a violation of public health code to cause or allow discharge of sewage on the ground (Environmental Health Code, Chapter 2, Section 7).

We will within the next 10 business days:

- Make a site visit to verify the failure.
- Contact you to make the necessary corrections to your septic system.
- Advise you of resources that might be available to help make the repair process easier and less costly.

Correcting septic system failures is an important step in protecting public health. We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Code Enforcement Program
Environmental Health Division
(253) 798-6440
ehcodeenforcement@tpchd.org

*If you are not the property owner, please call or email us with the property owner's name and contact information.