Expanded Services at Pierce County Planning and Public Works

The Health Department and Pierce County Planning and Public Works have teamed up to expand on-site septic and well permitting services.

We are changing the way we work together so you can do business with more ease and convenience. The Health Department currently has two full time employees 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 for more coordination with reviewers. We want to create vibrant communities, foster innovative ideas and deliver effective and efficient government for you—all while protecting the health of our residents and environment.

Questions? Email colocatproject@tpchd.org.

Proposed Fee Increases for 2019

Most Environmental Health programs, including Drinking Water, are funded through fees not tax-supported. This means every time the cost to run our programs (technology updates, gas and rent, etc.) increases, it can impact our fees.

We review our fee schedule every year. Our goal is to ensure we give you the same quality service and our programs remain sustainable. We currently have three ways you can pay your annual permit fee:

- In person.
- By mail with a check.
- Online with a credit card.

We want to add an option to pay online with your checking account. Tell us what you think—send your feedback to EHdrinkingwater@tpchd.org. See all the details and comment on proposed fees changes at www.tpchd.org/feeupdate.
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.

Welcome New Environmental Health Specialist, Josh!

Josh grew up in Olympia and attended the University of Puget Sound studying Molecular and Cellular Biology. He spent the past five years as an analytical chemist at a private environmental testing lab. He performed a wide variety of inorganic and organic tests on drinking and surface water, among other analyses.

He’s happy to continue building relationships with Group A and B managers and customers. When he’s not at work, Josh enjoys performing stand-up comedy, community and improv theatre.

We are here to help.

Our goal is to make sure you can provide safe and reliable drinking water to your small water system customers. Do you:

• Have ongoing water quality problems?
• Find it difficult to navigate the application and permitting processes for water systems?
• Lack the time it takes to keep up with management and operational responsibilities?

We offer a wide variety of free resources!

• Operation and management consulting.
• Technical and regulatory assistance.
• Workshops that address specific water system problems or general workings.
• Water quality information.

A safe and reliable water system is one of the cornerstones of good public health. You play a role to keep your water system and Pierce County residents healthy.

Questions? Contact our team at EHdrinkingwater@tpchd.org.

DEPARTMENT CLOSURES

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department offices will close for these holidays:

• Nov. 12 Veterans Day Observed
• Nov. 22 & 23 Thanksgiving
• Dec. 24 & 25 Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Test Your Water
Test once a year for bacteria and once every three years for nitrate.

DRINKING WATER STAFF

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