

OSS Designer & Installer Industry Meeting

Skagit County Public Health
2026

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Agenda

- New Website
- Navigating Civic Access
- Soil Evaluations
- Pressure Distribution
- Installer Renewals & CEUs
- FAQs
- Open Forum

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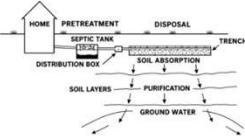
New Website Live 9/30

www.skagitcountywa.gov/septic

On-Site Septic Program

PUBLIC HEALTH | ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Septic systems treat sewage on the property where it is generated. Over 20,000 septic systems in Skagit County clean and recycle sewage contaminated water into clean groundwater every day in Skagit County. On-site sewage treatment can work as well or better than large wastewater treatment plants with proper design, installation, and maintenance.





Routine Inspections



Rebates & Financial Assistance



Homeowner Education



Find My Septic System



Septic Permitting



On-Site Professionals

Report a Septic Concern

Quick Links

Rebate Application
Online Form
Fillable PDF

Providers
Operation & Maintenance Professionals
Certified Installers
Licensed Designers

Homeowner Inspection Form
Gravity Homeowner Inspection Form

Regulations
Skagit County Sewage Code
Washington State Sewage Regulations
Department Standards & Guidance

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New Website Live 9/30

You now have your own website also.

<https://www.skagitcountywa.gov/services/public-health/environmental-health/on-site-septic-program/on-site-professionals/>

Save it to your favorites!

Everything you need – applications, how-to, RME, etc. should be there.

If there is something missing, let us know and we can add it.

Installer

Skagit County Certified Installers have the following obligations:

- Approval must be granted before beginning repairing, altering, or expanding an OSS.
- Be in possession of the approved design and (signed) permit during installation.
- Make no changes to the approved design without the prior authorization of the designer and the local health officer.
- Final construction inspections must be requested a minimum of two full working days in advance.
- Final construction inspections must be completed prior to backfilling. Cover the installation only after the local health officer has given approval to cover.

[As Built & Cover Sheet](#)

[As-Built Setup Form](#)

[Installer Guide to Skagit Permitting](#)

[Request Final Inspection](#)

Designers

On-Site Wastewater Designers are certified by the Washington State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors (BRPELS). They matches site and soil characteristics with appropriate on-site sewage technology.

[As Built & Cover Sheet](#)

[As-Built Setup Form](#)

[Request Final Inspection](#)

[Maintenance Agreement Form](#)

[Civic Access](#)

[How to Submit a Revision](#)

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Navigating Civic Access

- Check permit status (pg 9)
- Access approved designs (pg 2-5)
- View Conditions that apply (pg 6)

NOT for:

- Requesting final construction inspections

Inspection Requests:

For BUILDING permits, inspections must be requested no later than 3:30 the previous day. Please request your inspections in Civic Access. For SEPTIC permits, inspections must be requested a minimum of two full working days in advance. Email septic@skagitcountywa.gov with the address/parcel number or permit number, and date/time requested.

Permit Status – What They Mean

Permit Status	What they mean	Who to contact
Submitted – Online	Application hasn't been touched – hasn't been assigned or invoiced yet. Those are the first two steps.	New System: PDS Repair/Tank/Soils: Public Health
Intake	Permit has been assigned but may not be invoiced yet.	New System: PDS Repair/Tank/Soils: Public Health
Fees Due	Application has been invoiced, and the owner needs to pay the fees. No work will be done when fees are due.	Owner
Fees Paid	Owner has paid the fees and files can be prepared for technical review by septic, critical areas, and lot cert folks.	New System: PDS Repair/Tank/Soils: Public Health
In Review	The files have made it septic, critical areas, and lot cert for technical review. The 30-day timeline starts here. Before this point, NO REVIEW WILL occur. The clock resets with each revision resubmitted.	No contact is the best contact; as this allows us to review the documents in a timely fashion.
Pending Resubmittal	Additional information or a change (revision) is needed before approval can occur. An automated email will be sent stating revisions are needed with an attachment outlining the corrections.	Designer/Owner
Issued	The permit has been issued. An automated email is sent stating that the permit is issued. A signed permit is uploaded to Civic Access.	Civic Access for Approved Design Public Health

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Navigating Civic Access

Revisions required

- FULL replacement design is required to be uploaded.

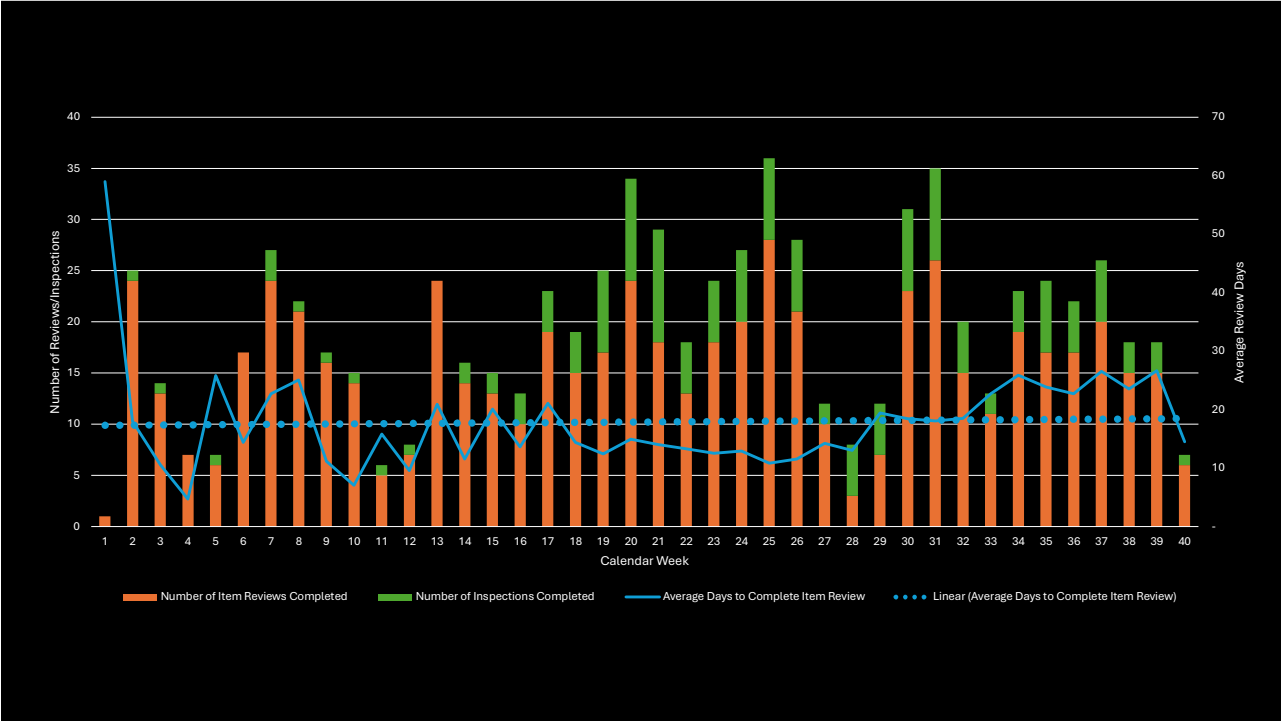
Resource:

<https://www.ilovepdf.com/>

Public Health Review Priorities (pg 9).

The screenshot shows the Civic Access web application interface. A modal window at the top center displays a 'Success' message: 'The file upload was submitted successfully.' with a 'Close' button. Below the modal, the 'Resubmit File(s)' section is visible. It includes a 'Resubmit' button and a table with columns for 'Previous File', 'New File', and 'Size'. The table contains one entry: 'Septic System Design-C1_v1.pdf' (Previous File) and 'GRABER REVISION 12-10-24_v2.pdf' (New File) with a size of '4.93 MB'. There is also a 'Cancel' button next to the 'Resubmit' button. At the bottom, there are 'Back' and 'Submit' buttons.

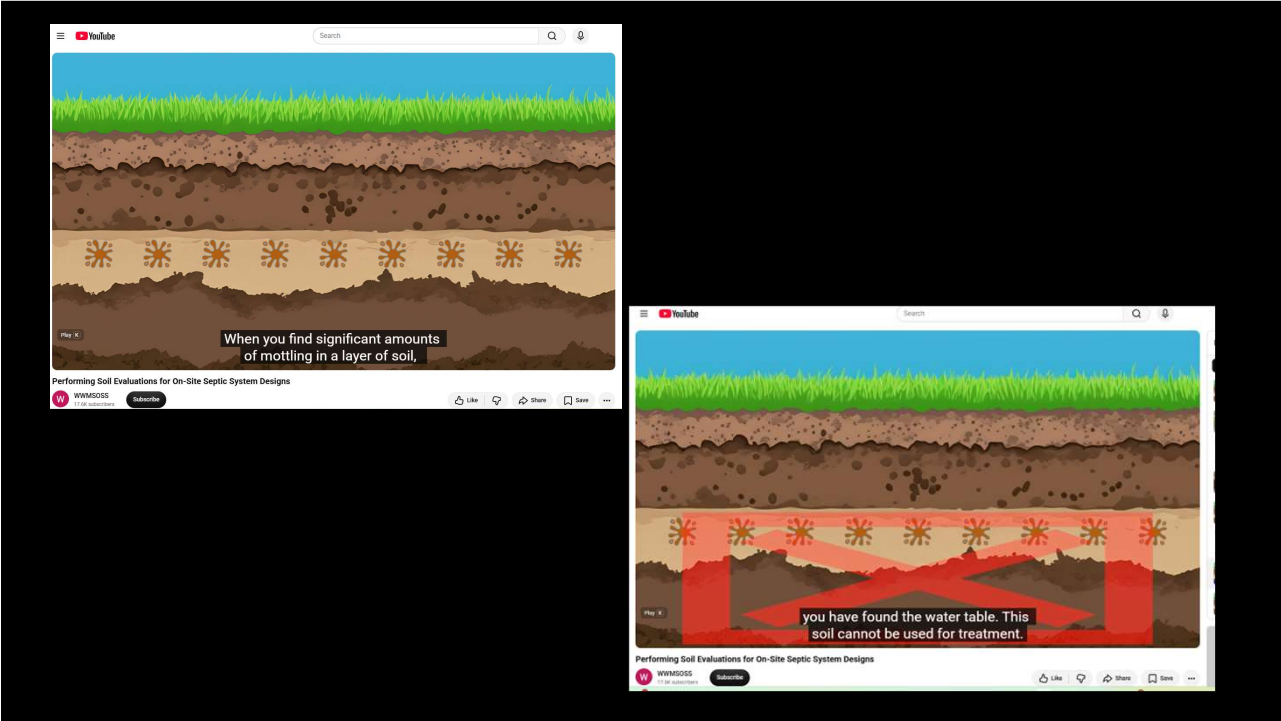
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Soil Evaluation

Mottling = anticipated water table

[Washington State Dept of Health Soil Eval Video](#)

IF NOT, then what caused it?
What is it from?

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Soil Evaluation

Modifiers matter.

Gravelly = ≥15% but ≤ 35%

Very Gravelly = 35-60%

Extremely Gravelly = 60-90%

WAC 246-272A-0010 definitions

(36) "Gravelly" means soils with 15 percent or more, but less than 35 percent rock fragments by volume.

(113) "Very gravelly" means soil containing 35 percent or more, but less than 60 percent rock fragments by volume.

(30) "Extremely gravelly" means soil with 60 percent or more, but less than 90 percent rock fragments by volume.

Soil Type	Soil Textural Classification
1	Gravelly and very gravelly coarse sands, all extremely gravelly soils excluding those with soil types 5 and 6 as the nongravel portion, and all soil types with greater than or equal to 90% rock fragments.

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Postholes?



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Pressure
Distribution

Please Check the
DS&Gs for MINIMUM
permit requirements

1. Daily design flow.

2. Septic tank size, location, and outlet invert elevation.

3. Pump pickup/siphon invert elevation and location.

4. Size of pump/siphon chamber.

5. Transport line length, location, highest elevation, and diameter.

6. All valves or other such components in the system.

7. Manifold diameter, location, length, and orientation.

8. Lateral diameter, location, length, orientation, and elevations.

9. Orifice diameter, spacing, and orientation.

10. Dose volume, pump rate (gpm), dose frequency, and design residual pressure.

11. Location and detail of all access ports on the laterals.

12. Detail of pump controls, floats, and the position of the floats.

13. An electrical wiring diagram specific to the project.

14. System parameters and calculations used by the designer to justify the component sizing and flow distribution shown in the design.

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Pressure
Distribution

Double Check Your
Math

Example 1:

Orifice count: 12
Orifice spacing: 72”
Lateral Length: 62’

12 orifices = 11 spaces
11 spaces * 72”= 792”
= 66 ft
+ spacing on ends 3 ft each
Laterals = 66+3+3 = 72’

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Pressure
Distribution

Double Check Your
Math

Example 2:

Orifice count: 8
Orifice spacing: 68”
Lateral Length: 54’

8 orifices = 7 spaces
7 spaces * 68”= 476”
= 39.67 ft
+ spacing on ends 3 ft each
Laterals = 39.67 +3+3 =
45.67’

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Pressure Distribution

Double Check
Yourself

Example 3:

Lateral size: 1”
Lateral length: 40’

Orifice size: 3/16”
Orifice spacing: 2’

Orifice Diameter (inches)	Lateral Diameter (inches)	Orifice Spacing (feet)	Maximum Lateral Length (ft)		
			Pipe Material		
			Schedule	Class 200	Class 160
3/16	1	1.5	24	30	
3/16	1	2	28	36	
3/16	1	2.5	32.5	42.5	
3/16	1	3	39	45	
3/16	1	4	44	56	
3/16	1	5	50	65	
3/16	1	6	60	72	

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Installer Renewal

- Renewals mailed first week of November (2nd/3rd)
- New fee schedule effective January 1, 2027.
- If no application by due date (12/15)
 - Then new fees apply
 - Plus, late renewal (double the fee)

Example:

- 2026 \$270
- 2027 \$360
- Late fee \$360
- **Pay \$270 vs \$720**

The choice is yours.

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WOSSA
Training

DESIGN FROM START TO FINISH / INTERACTIVE FIELD SOLUTIONS - MT. VERNON

Instructor: Ken Calder
Date: November 18, 2026
Time: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Location: WSU Mt. Vernon NWREC - 16650 State Route 536, Mount Vernon, WA 98273
CEUs: 8 Credit Hours

O&M FRIENDLY DESIGN AND INSTALLATION - BELLINGHAM

Instructor: Jerrold Hoeth
Date: November 19, 2026
Time: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Location: Four Points by Sheraton Bellingham Hotel and Conference Center - 714 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA 98229
CEUs: 8 Credit Hours

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Installation
FAQ/Q&A

Covering



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Installation
FAQ/Q&A

Water Line
Crossing

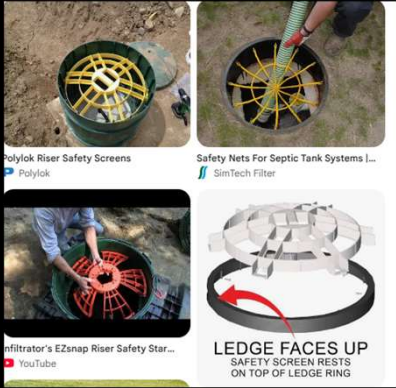


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Installation
FAQ/Q&A

Kid Catchers

- If design calls for a "Kid Catcher", installation is not complete without Kid Catcher.
- We have accepted photos after the final; but we need to start seeing them installed during the finals.



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NOVs

COMPANY is being issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) by Skagit County Public Health Department for the items marked below. In accordance with SCC 12.05.280, each item listed is a violation of the regulation and shall be a separate and distinct offense of Washington Administrative Code (WAC) and Skagit County Code (SCC).

	Summary of Requirement	Code Reference
☐	Approval must be granted before beginning repairing, altering, or expanding an OSS.	WAC 246-272A-0270
☐	Be in possession of the approved design and (signed) permit during installation.	WAC 246-272A-0250 (3)(a)
☐	Make no changes to the approved design without the prior authorization of the designer and the local health officer.	WAC 246-272A-0250 (3)(c)
☐	Final construction inspections must be requested a minimum of two full working days in advance.	SCC 12.05.150
☐	Final construction inspections must be completed prior to backfilling. Cover the installation only after the local health officer has given approval to cover.	SCC 12.05.140 & WAC 246-272A-025 (3)(g)

You will Return to Compliance with this Notice of Violation when:

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Open Forum

Q&A Time

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Open Forum Ideas

- Installation Depth (maximum) on sloping site
- Public Health Office Hours
- Notice of Violations
- How to Contact (septic@skagitcountywa.gov)
- Customer Communication
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