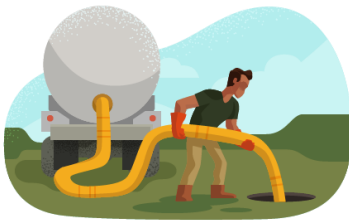


Why is the On-Site Sewage System Management Plan necessary?

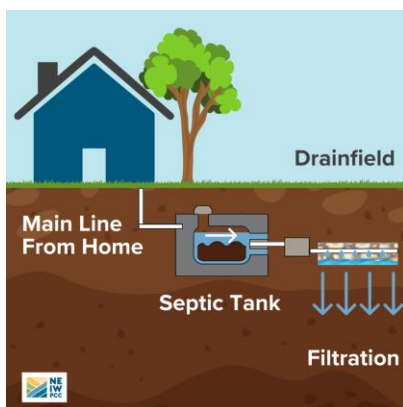
Septic system care is the responsibility of the owner. The Health Department has a responsibility to ensure there are resources and services in place to:

- Prevent, identify, and correct failing septic systems and protect water resources, including drinking water, by reducing exposure to sewage from failing septic systems
- Educate, inform, and assist septic system owners about how to properly maintain, troubleshoot problems, repair or replace their system.
- Create a more accurate and detailed inventory of septic systems so that all owners may receive the information they need to monitor and maintain their systems
- Help owners to access existing grant and loan programs that reduce the financial burden associated with repairing or replacing failed systems.

The On-Site Sewage System Management Plan lays out the steps necessary for the Health Department to implement these actions and ensure public safety.



There are over 55,000 septic systems treating wastewater daily in Thurston County.



What additional improvements does this plan seek to accomplish?

1. Septic to Sewer Planning

- Enabling greater cooperation between the county and cities to help make septic to sewer conversions more affordable.

2. Designation of Sensitive Areas and Marine Recovery Areas

- Expanding protections to important water bodies vulnerable to or experiencing pollution from septic runoff

3. Database and Dashboards

- Creating a septic database and functional dashboards to provide detailed and up-to-date septic information for county and public use

4. Climate Change Planning

- Developing a climate change response plan for septic systems in Thurston County

5. Quality Assurance Control

- Establishing a robust quality assurance and control (QA/QC) program for septic system inspections and development of performance metrics for all septic-related programs in the county

6. County-Led Septic-Related Programs

- Expanding the reach and funding of county-led Septic programs to better serve the people of Thurston County

Need more information, or have comments or questions?

Contact Us: environmental.health@co.thurston.wa.us

Septic Systems: 360-867-2626

Website: www.thurstoncountywa.gov/septic-systems

Maintenance Information: www.thurstonwa.gov/septic-care-and-maintenance