

# **Kitsap County Public Health District's Multifaceted Approach to Managing Septic System Inventory**

**AKA – Septic System Maintenance**

**Eric Evans, RS**



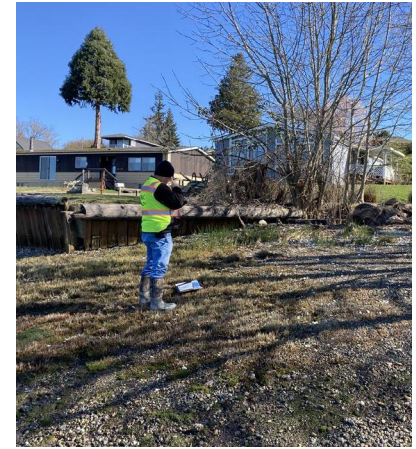
KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

# ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT ALL



# WHAT WE ARE GOING TO COVER

- Alternative System Maintenance Program (*can and does include gravity*)
- Septic System Time of Sale (PCI in Kitsap)
- How Permitting Processes Help
- Water Quality Program Work



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

## Maintenance Regulations started in 1995.

- Small Maintenance fee
- Certified Contractors
- Reporting
- Enforcement



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

## Fees

### **Maintenance Fees**

- Started as a report fee of \$10
  - Did not cover program costs.
- Converted to a Contract Fee
  - Easier to track and enforce.
  - Less administrative work.
- Fees have gone from \$10 to \$60 and now are \$30



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

## Certified Contractors

### **To be certified an individual:**

- Test
- Experience
- Annual Fee
- Annual renewal
- Enforcement/suspension



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

## What About Certified Homeowners?

### **Yes, but...**

- Test
- Experience
- Annual Fee
- Annual renewal
- Enforcement/suspension





# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE Reporting

## **Annual / Semi-annual Reporting Required**

- Reports originally based on the Consortium of Institutes for Decentralized Wastewater Treatment
- Long checklists
- Paper was hard
- Moved to online reporting using eOnsite and then OnlineRME



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

## Reporting

### 4 Sight Septic, Inc.

12055 Banner Rd. SE  
Olalla, WA 98359

360-710-0296

Mail To:

#### PROPERTY INFORMATION

Locator:

Use: Residential, Single Family (3 bdrm)  
System Design Flow: 360  
GENERAL SYSTEM TYPE: NuWater to Pressure

ON ID: 1548304:124608

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#### ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM INSPECTION REPORT

Inspected: 04/10/2024 - Inspection Type: ROUTINE - Correction Status: No corrections made

Company:

4 Sight Septic, Inc.

Work Performed By:

Nathaneal Lea

Submitted 04/18/2024 by:

Nathaneal Lea

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#### COMMENTS & GENERAL INSPECTION NOTES

**Deficiencies Noted: deficiencies must be corrected to ensure proper longevity of the Onsite Sewage System.**

System flooded on arrival. Panel not functioning. System is gravity flowing to drainfield. Pump is not activating. All tanks need pumped. Trouble shooting electrical is needed. Pump runs in manual mode.

#### GENERAL SITE & SYSTEM CONDITIONS

The General Site and System Conditions were:	Fully Inspected
Components accessible for service:	YES
All required service performed (if no - specify omitted inspection items in notes):	YES
Surfacing effluent from any component (including mound seepage):	NO
Components appear to be watertight - no visual leaks:	YES
Improper encroachment (structures/impervious surfaces); cover, or settling problems observed:	NO
Structures connected to onsite sewage system occupied. If NO explain in comments:	YES
All riser lids securely fastened upon departure:	YES
Inspected components appear to be in good physical condition:	YES

#### ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEM INSPECTION DETAIL

**TANK: Trash Tank, Manufacturer= Infiltrator Systems, Inc. - IM-1060 Infiltrator "IM-1060" 1comp. 2 Risers. Poly Trash Tank. 1st inline**

Manufacturer: Infiltrator Systems, Inc. Model: IM-1060

This component was:	Fully Inspected	
Effluent level within operational limits (if NO explain in comments):	NO	Deficient
All required baffles in place (N/A = No baffles required):	YES	
Compartment 1 Scum accumulation (Inches, if other specify):	0	
Compartment 1 Sludge accumulation (Inches, if other specify):	24	
Pumping needed:	YES	Deficient



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE Enforcement

## **Many considerations**

- Certified contractors need oversight and enforcement to their certification requirements
- Enforcement of homeowners
  - Deficient reports
  - Contracts
- If you can, have civil infractions at your disposal



# ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE Enforcement

Report Card: Kitsap Contracts & Inspections

March 2024

## Services, Inc.

### Contract and Inspection Status

Total Contracts	Past Due Inspections	Group Past Due Inspections	Repeated Past Due Inspections from last report card	Repeated Past Due Inspections from 2 report cards back
74	2 (2.7%)	0.6%	1 (1.4%)	0 (0.0%)

Comments: Please note that your company inspections are past due by greater than the group average. This has been noted on two (2) consecutive report cards. Failure to correct past due inspections before the next report period will result in immediate certification suspension and an administrative hearing. You will be charged an Incomplete/Erroneous Report Submittal Fee, per the current adopted KPHD fee schedule, for each of the 1 inspection(s) noted as repeatedly past due.

### Contracts with Delinquent Inspections for 2 Periods

Address	Contract Start	Last Inspection	System Type
5150	12/28/23	05/06/22	Semi Annual

### Contracts with Delinquent Inspections for 1 Period

Address	Contract Start	Last Inspection	System Type
8152	12/08/23	08/15/23	Semi Annual

### Contracts with No Inspection (not counted in report card)

Address	Contract Start	Last Inspection	System Type
14210	02/22/24		Semi Annual



# TIME OF SALE INSPECTIONS



# TIME OF SALE PROGRAM

## Overview

**TEASER!** See the DOH Property Transfer Inspections Panel!

### How it works in Kitsap

- Complete file review
- Review maintenance inspections/pump reports
- Conduct a site visit
- Complete and issue a report



# TIME OF SALE PROGRAM

## Some details

### **The nuts and bolts**

- Applicant applies with a \$295 fee
- Applications come in online through SkipThePaper
- During the site visit the Health District not only evaluates the property for use but we also review the maintenance reports to ensure that they line up with what we see.
- Issue a final report within 7 days. The online software emails the documents to parties.



# TIME OF SALE PROGRAM

## Some more details

### **The nuts and bolts - continued**

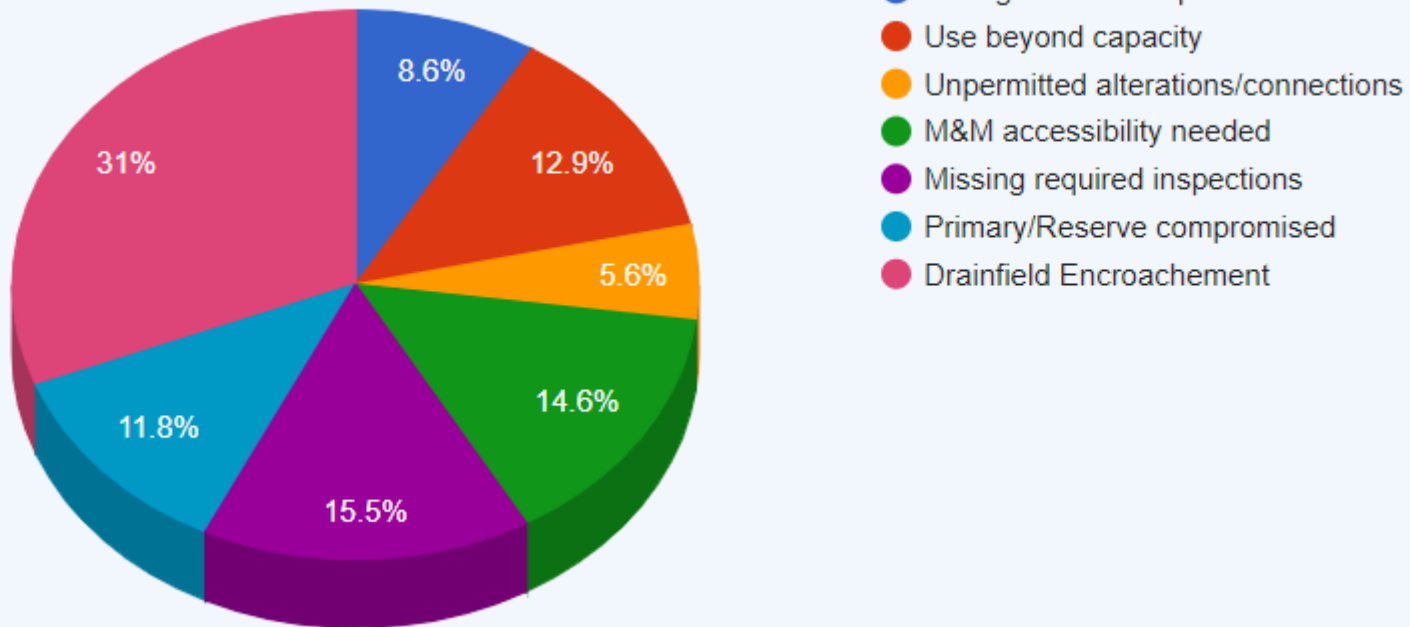
- Average PCIs per month ~ 150 for the last 5 years.
- 11 FTEs on average for the program.
- Enforcement is passive for most, except for specific violations, which may result in immediate enforcement.
- What were the challenges or lessons learned in building your program?





# TIME OF SALE PROGRAM

## Some Stats



# OTHER PERMITTING PROCESSES



# OTHER PERMITTING PROCESSES

## **How it helps.**

- Passive enforcement.
- For those systems that are not alternative:
  - Inspections required to be up to date (pump)
- For those alternative systems with issues:
  - Corrections need to be made
- For those properties that are not alternative or have not sold/had permits recently, this is a catch-all.



# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM WORK



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## **Water Quality?**

- Actively looking for sources of pollution.
  - Surveys
  - Complaints
  - Deficient Pump Reports



# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM WORK

## Surveys

### **How we use surveys...**

- Engage with property owners to do a question-and-answer session.
- Dye the system
- Review historical inspection and permit history
- Gain access at times through incentives (vouchers)



# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM WORK

## Complaints

### **Complaints?**

- Public complaints generate inspections.
- Investigations may result in identifying a failure, or inspection.





# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM WORK

## Deficient Pump Reports

### **DPRs**

- 785 reports a month submitted online by certified pumpers.
- Respond to every single deficient pump report
- Site visit for every single report of backing up or surfacing effluent.
- Results in correction of a significant number of system issues.



Questions?



# Contact info

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