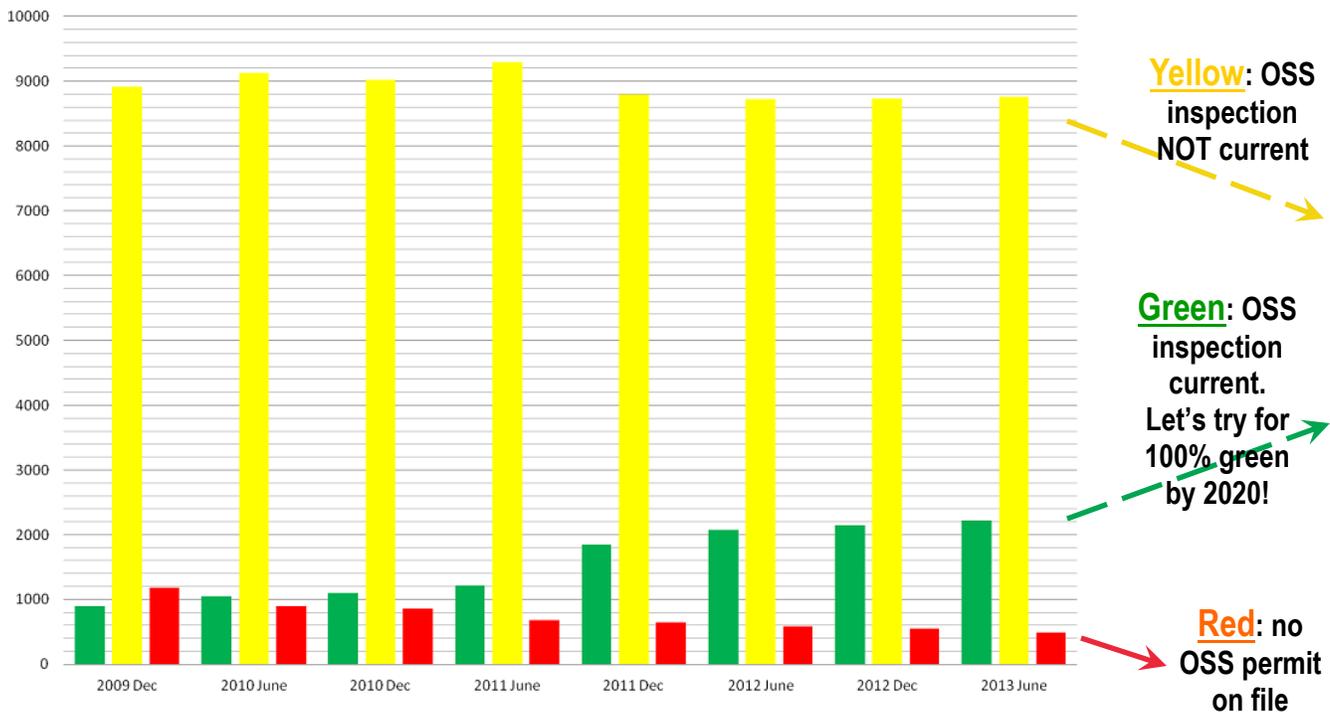


Septics Edition

Third Flush, "tIssue" #1

Summer 2013

Are you Green, Yellow or Red?



The Green total is rising and the Red is dropping—both good trends—but we need to speed it up to best protect public health and water quality! Environmental Health is required to report twice a year to the state indicating inspection status for all onsite septic systems (OSS) in the Marine Recovery Area.

Conventional OSS must be inspected **every three years** and for all other systems it's **every** year. Which category are you in—Green, Yellow, or Red? In mid-August you will be able to use the state DOH website to generate a map showing current inspection status by color (updated about every 6 months): <http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/WastewaterManagement/OnsiteSewageSystemsOSS/ManagementStrategy/ManagementAreas.aspx>



Tips & Tid-Bits from EH

- ◆ The D.I.Y. inspection training (Septics 201) should be online in August for residential OSS owners! See page 3 for further detail.
- ◆ The EH survey of OSS owners is due August 16th. Watch the next newsletters for results!
- ◆ Don't forget—Craft3 offers special rates on OSS repair loans!

Success Story: Avellana Mobile Home Park

As part of the septic system operation and maintenance program, Environmental Health staff routinely researches septic system records for information on septic system location and inspection status. Staff found that information for many of the older mobile home parks in the County were lacking information about their systems.

In 2012 HHS/Environmental Health received a grant from the Washington State Department of Health to help mobile home park owners in the Marine Recovery Area update their records and have their systems located and inspected. The program offered reimbursement for inspections, pumping, locates and upgrades such as risers and outlet filters.

To date, four mobile home parks have participated in the program; among them was the Avellana Mobile Home Park. The owner hired a licensed designer/maintenance provider to locate and inspect the systems serving the park and provide reports and updated record drawings to the county. Risers were added to the tanks to make future inspections easier. Outlet filters were installed to help protect the drainfields. The inspection revealed the tanks needed to be pumped and have a few roots removed—items that if left unattended could cause system failure. Having this maintenance done will allow the drainfields to continue to function for many more years.

According to the park owner, “The program provided the incentive and motivation to do what had been deferred for a couple of years. No doubt, the improvements avoided expensive failures in coming months.”

Sue Waldrip is the staff contact for this project.

Be the next Success Story? SEPTICS 101 NOW OFFERED FOR HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATIONS

Do you belong to a Homeowner Association? Would you like the popular Septics 101 class to be brought to your community? Environmental Health has grant funding to present the class to homeowner associations to encourage septic system maintenance. All you need to provide is the meeting location (preferably with a projector screen for our Power Point show) and the people! Environmental Health staff will do the rest. Please contact Sue Waldrip at 417-2350, or Janine Reed at 417-2593, for details.

O&M Tip: Get a rebate for doing the right thing!

HHS/Environmental Health announces a new program offering \$100 “rebates” for septic system inspections, pumping, or installation of risers.

Rebates are limited to a maximum of \$100 and one per household, residential non-commercial only—available County-wide. All you need to do is submit a receipt and you get a check in the mail!

Contact Sue Waldrip at 360-417-2350 for more information.





The Water Column

The people have spoken

Last year the County contracted with Parametrix, Inc., to develop feasible wastewater management alternatives for the Dungeness/Three Crabs area. HHS/Environmental Health worked closely with them to involve the community in the development process at four local meetings and several public presentations.

The Feasibility Study discusses four alternatives in detail:

(1) continuing to utilize and maintain onsite septic systems (OSS), (2) multi-lot large OSS, (3) regional small sewer, and (4) collection and conveyance to City of Sequim. The Study notes that, at this point in time, community and County support is strongest for the first option. However, if OSS viability concerns increase or more water quality data implicate OSS in the area, the Study can be utilized to pursue implementing next steps for one of the other alternatives.

To learn more or view comments, please visit the project website:

www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/DungenessWastewater.html

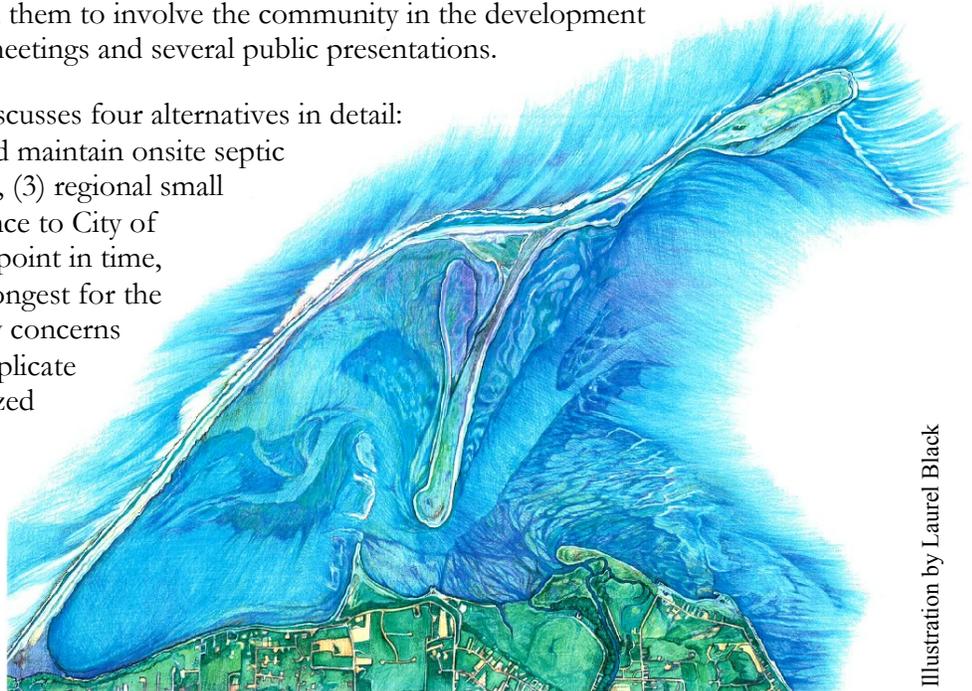


Illustration by Laurel Black



The Clean Water Herald is a periodic newsletter supported by members of the Clean Water Work Group, to inform and promote good stewardship of our shared natural resources.

Septics Edition Volume 3/ "Third Flush" is published by the friendly staff at Environmental Health Services, a division of the Clallam County Health & Human Services Department. Contact us at the courthouse, 360-417-2258, or visit our websites listed on the reverse.

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Summer-Fall Events

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| OSS Owner Survey | Due August 16th! Submit by fax, mail, email, or complete online at: http://www.clallam.net/ (under "Current Issues" tab) | |
| Septics 101 Online | This 30-minute video is posted on the Washington Dept. of Health website, and linked from our Septics 101 page: http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/onsite_septic101.html | |
| Septics 101 In-Person | Thurs., Sept. 12, 6-8:30pm Thurs., Oct. 24, 6-8:30pm <i>Use link above to register.</i> | Dungeness River Audubon Center, Hendrickson Road |
| Septics 201 Online | Do-It-Yourself (DIY) inspection training online soon at: www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/Septics201DIY.html | |
| Septics 201 In-Person | Thurs., Oct. 3, 10am—1pm <i>Use links above to register.</i> Prerequisite is Septics 101 (in-person or online) | Dungeness Schoolhouse, Towne Road |

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Inside this "Issue":

- ◆ Avellana Mobile Home Park success story
- ◆ \$100 O&M rebates offered
- ◆ Red-to-Green progress
- ◆ Dungeness/Three Crabs feasibility study results



This newsletter is mailed to onsite septic system owners in Clallam County using property owner addresses on file with the Clallam County Assessor's Office. If you have received this newsletter erroneously, please contact us.



Return your
OSS Owner Survey
by August 16th!

SEPTIC SYSTEM CARE BEGINS WITH YOU

Clallam County Onsite Septics Program Websites

- Onsite septic systems (OSS) in general: <http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/onsite.html>
- Online survey for OSS owners: (due 8/16) <http://www.clallam.net/> (and select item under "Current Issues" tab)
- O&M program including provider list: http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/onsite_om.html
- Find "as-builts" and other permit records: http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/onsite_asbuilt.html
- OSS educational page: http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/onsite_maintenance.html
- Septics Edition newsletter (all issues): <http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/ehnewsletter1.html>
- Septics 101 classes: http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/onsite_septic101.html
- Septics 201 (Do-It-Yourself inspections): <http://www.clallam.net/HHS/EnvironmentalHealth/Septics201DIY.html>

Also, the state Dept. of Health has a new webpage with great suggestions for keeping your system running well:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/WastewaterManagement/OnsiteSewageSystemsOSS/HomeownerEducation.aspx>