



Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services

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INSTRUCTIONS TO HOMEOWNER INSTALLERS

Homeowner installations must meet Clallam County Code Chapter 41.20.110.

Homeowners may install a conventional gravity system if the following applies:

- a) It is not adjacent to a marine (salt-water) shoreline.
- b) They apply to install no more than one system in any one calendar year.
- c) The OSS homeowner installer owns or has a beneficial interest as a contracted purchaser of the land on which the OSS is to be installed.
- d) The OSS is either located on the same lot as the residence or situated on adjoining property controlled by the owner and legally listed as an encumbrance.
- e) The OSS homeowner installer will reside in or use the building served by the OSS.
- f) The Health Officer may require written examination of resident owners when considering applications for self-installation.

Homeowner Installers pay an additional \$145.00 in permit fees for additional inspections during the installation process.

Prior to beginning any work on a septic permit installation:

Call in a construction Start Notification to both the County and the Designer. Your Designer's name should be prominently displayed on the permit. Your septic permit number is in the upper right corner and begins with SEP.

PLEASE CALL THE COUNTY AT
(360) 417-2506, a minimum 48 hrs prior to installation
You may leave a message 7 days wk/ 24 hrs day

Provide: Septic Permit Number: SEPYEAR-XXXX
 Owner Name on the permit & Designer name
 Site Location (if address is available) or street name.
 Date & time that work is to begin.

No part of any septic system shall be covered or put into use until inspection and final approval has been obtained from both the Designer and the County Sanitarian.

The County MUST perform an inspection of HOMEOWNER Installation jobs.

Homeowners must be under direct supervision by their WA licensed designer and follow installation requirements, as listed below:

- (a) Follow the approved design;
- (b) Have the approved design and permit face sheet in possession during installation;
- (c) Make no changes to the approved design without the prior authorization of the licensed designer and the Health Officer;
- (d) Only install septic tanks, pump chambers, and holding tanks approved by the WDOH;
- (e) Be on the site at all times during the excavation and construction of the OSS;
- (f) Install the OSS to be watertight, except for the soil dispersal component;
- (g) Cover the installation only after the Health Officer has given approval to cover; and
- (h) Backfill with six to 24 inches of cover material and grade the site to prevent surface water from accumulating over any component of the OSS.

To install an alternative septic design (pressure systems) the homeowner must apply for a waiver from EH and must meet all waiver requirements. Request a homeowner waiver form for more details. The waiver fee is \$125.00.

Other considerations for a homeowner installation:

Materials such as C-33 sand, drainrock or pea gravel used in the installation of a septic drainfield trench or bed must be from an approved source, ask your designer for a recommendation for where to obtain suitable materials.

Drainrock, C-33 sand, and pea-gravel must meet specifications and be washed clean and remain free from fine materials (such as dirt) and clays. Pit run sands are not allowed. If the homeowner installer uses materials from an unapproved source and the materials are found to be dirty the owner will be required to remove the unapproved materials. If unable to remove the materials without disturbing the soil at the bottom of the trenches/bed the owner will be directed to start the installation over in another location. Confirmation of suitable soils for a septic system design will be necessary.

Owners must be aware that deviations from septic designs (without prior approval from both the designer and the Health officer) and/or the use of unsuitable materials may be grounds for stopping an installation and denial of the septic approval of the original permit. A new permit must be submitted to move forward with development. The new permit shall meet all current septic system regulations in order to be approved by Environmental Health.