



Skamania County
Community Development Department
Building/Fire Marshal ♦ Environmental Health ♦ Planning
Skamania County Courthouse Annex
Post Office Box 1009
Stevenson, Washington 98648
Phone: 509-427-3900 Inspection Line: 509-427-3922

**OSS SITE EVALUATION APPLICATION
INTAKE CHECKLIST**

(This checklist must be completed and submitted with all required documents for the application to be considered complete. Review will not begin on the project until all of the requirements below are submitted.)

STAFF APPLICANT

Complete On-site Sewage Site Evaluation Application and *non-refundable* fee (payable to Skamania County Treasurer). **Fees are subject to change by resolution of the County Commissioners.**

Soil and Site Evaluation - \$335 *non-refundable* fee

Concurrency Review of Designer's Soil and Site Evaluation - \$245 *non-refundable* fee

Reviewed by _____ **Complete:** Yes _____ No _____ **Date:** _____

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**ON-SITE SEPTIC SYSTEM SITE EVALUATION
APPLICATION AND INFORMATION PACKET**

What is an On-Site Septic System (OSS) Site Evaluation?

An OSS Site Evaluation is a review of site conditions on a property including inspection of soil types, soil profile, site drainage characteristics and topography.

Do I need an OSS Site Evaluation?

All new development must have an approved method of sewage disposal. If you are seeking to construct a new home, or expand your current OSS system, you will need an OSS Site Evaluation completed on your property prior to receiving permits for construction.

Please note: If this is for a repair to your existing system, please use the OSS Repair application. This application is only for new systems or expansion/replacement of existing OSS systems.

The Process

1. The Site Evaluation must be completed by a professional engineer, on-site septic designer or by a Skamania County Community Development Department (SCCDD) Environmental Health Specialist (EHS).
2. A complete application packet and fee must be submitted for the review process to begin.
3. Once the application is deemed complete, SCCDD will contact the property owner and confirm that a minimum of four (4) soil test pits (perc holes) are ready and meet the specifications included in this packet for width, depth, location, etc.
4. An EHS will visit the site and inspect the four (4) soil test pits and complete a Soil and Site Evaluation that classifies the soil type and specifies what type of OSS system is approved for that location. The EHS will issue Site Evaluation Results within 14 days of the site visit. You will then provide these results to your OSS Designer of choice to design a system based on the soil evaluation results. OSS Designers must be licensed by the State.
5. If a high water table is noted, a winter water table evaluation may be required.
6. Please note: this Site Evaluation application alone does not result in a permit. It is not until the subsequent OSS Design, submitted with OSS Design Review and Permit application and non-refundable fee, is reviewed and approved that a permit is issued. Please see the OSS Design Review and Permit application packet for additional information.

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On-Site Septic System Site Evaluation Application
(please complete application in ink)

APPLICATION TYPE

New System Expansion and/or Replacement System

Description of Proposal: _____

APPLICANT AND SITE INFORMATION

Applicant Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Owner Name (Complete if different from the applicant): _____
Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Site Address: _____
Tax Parcel Number: _____ Lot Size: _____
Detailed directions to the site: _____

List any access restrictions (gates, dogs, cattle, etc.). Access problems restrict the ability to evaluate property in a timely manner: _____

List any known encumbrances on this property (i.e., neighbor's well, easement, flood zones, etc.): _____

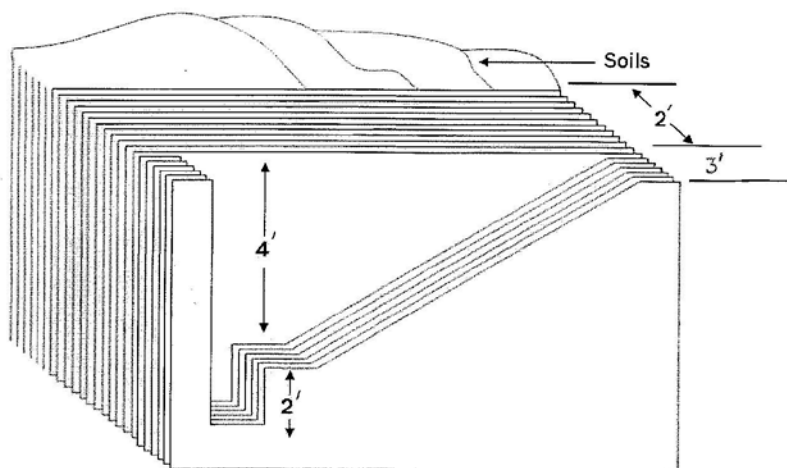
FLAG SITE

To easily locate your property and soil test pits, place your name on a sign and affix to a post or tree in front of the site marking access from the main road. Mark property corners, property lines (every 100 feet), etc. If the site has property lines clearly marked (fence, roadway, etc.), it will not be necessary to flag these lines. Clearly mark the location of the soil test pits. Describe the soil test pit's location: _____

1. Soil test pits:

- a. Two (2) test pits must be provided in the primary drainfield area, and two (2) additional holes must be provided in the proposed reserve area. Additional holes are encouraged in other areas of the site for potential consideration as drainfield locations. Doing so creates more options for locating a septic system on the property and may also result in the discovery of soils that would accommodate a less costly system. A maximum of eight (8) soil test pits will be evaluated per application and fee.
- b. Test pits should be no less than fifty (50) feet apart, and not more than one hundred (100) feet apart.
- c. Test holes must be a minimum of 5 feet deep (if possible), twenty-four (24) inches wide and have an access slope on one side with a slope of no more than forty (40) degrees.
- d. Test holes deeper than four (4) feet must have a bench constructed at four (4) feet below the ground surface.
- e. Benches in test holes must be a minimum of twenty (20) inches wide with zero or nominal slope.
- f. Test holes may not exceed a depth of six (6) feet unless permission is granted by the Department prior to excavation.
- g. In unstable soils, holes deeper than four (4) feet must be shored and constructed in a manner that reasonably assures the safety of individuals entering therein.

TEST PIT EXAMPLE



- h. On lots where difficult or complex conditions exist, a licensed designer or installer may need to be consulted.
- i. Mark the test pits with blue flagging tape.

- j. Put a sign with the name of the Applicant where the property meets the County road. Put flagging on the sign to make it easily visible.
- k. If easement road, place sign where the easement road meets the County road, then place another sign where property meets the easement road.
- l. On multiple lots, identify lot numbers.
- m. Winter water tests will be required for all sites within eighteen (18) inches or less of soil above a restrictive layer due to high water table, unless waived by the Department.

2. Drainfield

- a. Sufficient area is needed for the drainfield, and an equal amount for a drainfield replacement (reserve area) must be available for future use.
- b. Overall slope in the proposed drainfield area must not exceed 45 percent (24 degrees)
- c. Drainfield sites must be a minimum of 25 feet from slopes greater than 100 percent (45 degrees or 1:1)

3. Setbacks

- a. A 100-foot setback from all wells or bodies of water (streams, ponds, seasonal water, etc.) is required.
- b. In some cases, a setback greater than 100 feet from wells and surface water may be required