



How to Reinstate a Non Conforming Septic System

Thurston County Environmental Health classifies on-site sewage system as 'non-conforming' for the following reasons:

- A required Operational Certificate has expired.
- The Department has not received a completed, satisfactory inspection report.
- A report of required maintenance / minor repair work has not been received.
- The septic system is not operated consistent with its size and design.
- The septic system is failing and must be repaired through the County's permitting process.

Thurston County Sanitary Code, Article IV, Section 16.7 outlines how to reinstate a non-conforming system.

1. Must **complete an application for a field inspection** with the \$335 field inspection fee to the Permit Assistance Center. This application and instructions can be obtained at the Permit Assistance Center in Building 1 of the Thurston County Courthouse on the second floor. Check for hours of operation. The field inspection will be conducted by a Health Department sanitarian. [See 4. Below]
2. All past renewal fees, when applicable, must be paid.

Reports for the following must be submitted:

3. A **septic system inspection** by a septic professional, including tank, drainfield, and all components.
4. The **septic tank pumped** within the last year by a certified pumper. The septic tank **inlet and outlet lids must be exposed** for the required field inspection by the County.
5. Any **maintenance and repairs** identified in any previous inspection or septic tank pump-outs must be completed and documented.

The non-conforming status of the on-site sewage system limits your ability to obtain other permits or County approvals.

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