Interlacing Drainfields

Policy Title
On-site Sewage System Interlacing Drainfields

Number
ONST.20.POL.847

Effective Date
05/01/2020

Latest Approval Date
05/01/2020

Approved By
Art Starry

Next Review Date
05/01/2026

POLICY INTENT

Purpose
Identifies conditions and criteria for the use of interlacing OSS drainfields

Scope
☒ Internal Only ☐ Direct Impact to Citizens

Are Office/Department Documents on this subject permitted?
☒ Yes. The policy clarifies regulations used only by the Environmental Health Division (Article IV and WAC 246-272A)
☐ No

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Interlacing is allowable for an OSS with a full-size trench drainfield
   • Site and soil characteristics will dictate distribution and dosing
   • Gravity distribution allowed where site and soil conditions allow
   • Interlacing is not allowed for Type I soil

2. The reserve area must utilize full sized trenches and be shown between the installed (primary) disposal trenches
   • Reduced size primary or reserve areas utilizing alternative technology are not allowed
   • The reserve area must be shown between the trenches. Locating the reserve area(s) elsewhere is not allowed.

3. Vertical separation dictates distance between pipes in active laterals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vertical Separation (inches)</th>
<th>Distances Pipes Center to Center (feet)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least 24</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 &lt; 24</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 &lt; 18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Use of primary and reserve trenches must be alternated when both are installed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil Types</th>
<th>Alternate Fields Every</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 through 3</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 through 6</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Development, Subdivisions, and Minimum Land Requirements in Section 21, Article IV dictate the minimum lot size.
   • Interlacing cannot be used to justify smaller lots or increased development density

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

OSS
On-site sewage system
Interlacing

The practice of installing or proposing the installation of OSS drainfield trenches in the undisturbed are located between the parallel trenches of the primary drainfield area.

```
  Primary Drainfield
      /
   /  \
/    \
  Reserve Drainfield
```

### RELEVANT LAWS AND OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County Code</th>
<th>Thurston County Sanitary Code Article IV – On-Site Sewage Regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Law</td>
<td>WAC 246-272 A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Superseded Documents

ONST.11.POL847

### Supporting Documents

### Related Documents

### Communication and Implementation Strategy

The Policy Owner will:
- Send signed updated policy to OSS Professionals and Staff through Constant Contact e-mail
- Post signed updated policy to Division’s OSS Professionals Webpage

### POLICY ADMINISTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Owner</th>
<th>Steve Petersen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact Person (if different from above)</td>
<td>Program Manager, EH Division</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Roles and Responsibilities | Kathy Patton | Policy Administrator |

### REVISION HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Modifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/05/2011</td>
<td>Art Starry, EH Director</td>
<td>Original Policy ONST.11.POL.847</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewers of the Current Revision</th>
<th>Steve Davies/EHS II</th>
<th>Name/Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Art Starry – Environmental Health Director</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>