



**Building Development Center**  
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## CERTIFICATE OF WATER AVAILABILITY (COWA)

### Connection to a Public Water System

**Purpose:** To assure the availability of potable drinking water per RCW 19.27 and Article III of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.

Issuance of a Certificate of Water Availability (COWA) is required prior to issuance of all building permits for new construction or change of use when potable drinking water is required.

**PROJECT #** \_\_\_\_\_ **TAX PARCEL#** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Water Purveyor or Owner to Complete this Section** *(see instructions on page 2)*

Public Water System Name: \_\_\_\_\_ I.D.# \_\_\_\_\_ Group A or B  
*(circle one)*

Statement of Water System Purveyor/Owner: I certify the proposed connection to this water system is within the scope of plans and specifications approved on \_\_\_\_\_ (date). Signature of this document confirms assignment of a service connection.

The system is approved for a maximum number of \_\_\_\_\_ connections. There are currently, including this connection, \_\_\_\_\_ number of active/pending service connections. The routine water quality monitoring samples and water quality are in compliance with WAC 246-290 or 291 (State Drinking Water Regulations).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Purveyor Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Building Development Center Staff to Complete this Section**

**FOR BUILDING DEVELOPMENT CENTER STAFF EVALUATION**

Group A Systems WDOH Determination:  Adequate  Inadequate

**FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STAFF EVALUATION**

Group B Systems File check:  Adequate  Inadequate  
 Total Connections:  < Approved #  = Approved #  > Approved #  
 Sampling:  Adequate  Inadequate  
 Water Quality:  Adequate  Inadequate

**BUILDING DEVELOPMENT CENTER STAFF**

WATER CERTIFICATE APPROVED  WATER CERTIFICATE **NOT** APPROVED  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH STAFF**

WATER CERTIFICATE APPROVAL RECOMMENDED  APPROVAL **NOT** RECOMMENDED  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF WATER AVAILABILITY (COWA) INSTRUCTIONS  
CONNECTION TO A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM**

**STEP 1** Purveyor or owner of the public water system shall complete the section of the form titled Public Water Purveyor or Owner.

**STEP 2** Submit the form to:

Thurston County Community Planning & Economic Development  
Building Development Center  
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW  
Olympia, WA 98502

**STEP 3**

**Group A Public Water Systems:** Thurston County Building Development Center staff reviews the water system adequacy report provided by the Washington State Department of Health Office of Drinking Water and recommends approval of the COWA if the requirements to demonstrate water availability are met.

**Group B Public Water Systems:** Thurston County Environmental Health staff evaluates the public water system records to determine whether the proposed connection is within the scope of system approval, and if the system is in compliance with water quality monitoring and other operational requirements. Environmental Health staff will recommend whether or not COWA should be approved. Building Development Center staff approves the COWA if the requirements to demonstrate water availability are met.