

PANHANDLE HEALTH DISTRICT I

Kootenai County	2195 Ironwood Court, Coeur d'Alene	415-5200
Benewah County	711 Jefferson, St.Maries.....	245-4556
Bonner County	322 Marion, Sandpoint.....	265-6384
Boundary County	7402 Caribou (PO Box 893), Bonners Ferry.....	267-5558
Shoshone County	114 Riverside Ave, Kellogg.....	786-7474

SEWAGE SYSTEM PERMIT APPLICATION AND INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

GENERAL NOTES

- Check with local Health District official for regulations and forms. Some building permit applications require a valid Sewage Permit prior to Health District sign-off.
- No approvals for sewage disposal systems can be given unless an application for the Site Evaluation and an application for a septic installation has been received. **No verbal approvals will be given.**
- Installation of a septic system on the Rathdrum Aquifer requires a minimum parcel size of five (5) acres, or must be a parcel created before December 20, 1977, or must be within the boundaries of a municipal sewage management area that has been approved by the Board of Health.
- Any person who constructs, alters, or extends an individual sewage disposal system must hold a valid permit from the Panhandle Health District. Any person who contracts to do such work must be licensed by the Health District.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Submit application for site evaluation and (if desired) permit. Pay fee(s). New site evaluations may be required for repair/replacement systems.

Fees:

Site Evaluation (for new system or expansion to system)	\$380
Septic Permit (for new system or expansion to system)	\$200
2 Party Septic Permit	\$250
Aquifer & Recharge Area Surcharge	\$200
Repair Permit	\$200
Tank Only (Connecting to Community System)	\$50
(Connecting to existing one or two party drainfield)	\$200
Pit or Sealed Vault Privy	\$165
Permit Renewal (one time only – prior to expiration date)	\$50

- An Assessor's map indicating property lines and measurements is needed.
- Include accurate directions to the site; names of roads, mileage, signs, etc.
- **SITE EVALUATION/PERMITS MAY TAKE UP TO 10 WORKING DAYS AFTER WE HAVE BEEN CONTACTED REGARDING TESTHOLE COMPLETION OR SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS - NOT FROM THE TIME OF APPLICATION.**

2. Call Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) prior to digging test holes and/or schedule appointment to have test holes reviewed at time of dig.

Guidelines for Digging Test Holes:

- a. System size is determined by soil type.
- b. Soil type is determined by an eight-foot deep testhole.
- c. Testhole(s) must be at least three feet wide and sloped on one side to allow a person to walk into.
- d. Start with a testhole at the center of the proposed drainfield area. Dig another testhole approximately 75 feet away. If soils are not suitable, move to another area and repeat process.
- e. Slope in the area of the proposed drainfield cannot exceed 20 percent. (Slope in excess of 20 percent may be considered depending on site.)
- f. Drainfield must be in excess of 100 to 300 feet from streams, lakes and ponds. (Distance will vary depending on soil types.)
- g. Do not dig in draws, fill areas, wet areas, near springs, wells or surface water.
- h. A replacement area is required that meets the same standards as the initial drainfield.

***Please note:** Garden-type backhoes cannot be used as they cannot dig adequate testholes. Testholes should be covered as soon as possible after the inspection is completed. Uncovered holes present a hazard to livestock, wildlife and children.

If testholes are acceptable:

3. Apply for permit and pay fee if not already done. Submit plot plan with required information to Panhandle Health District for approval. See attached example. Items of concern: House location, structures, well, spring, water lines, property lines, surface water, driveways, etc.
4. Permit application is reviewed for compliance with State regulation. Permit is then distributed or prepared for pick-up if approved.
5. After permit has been issued, install system according to approved plans. Health District Environmental Health Specialist must inspect system after components are connected and before covering. **DO NOT COVER ANY PORTION OF THE SYSTEM WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THIS OFFICE.**
6. An inspection tag will be left on site after inspection. (Green for approved and Red for disapproved). After approval, cover with good soil. No road, parking lot or structure can be built over the drainfield.
7. **Note:** Applicant needs to contact the State Plumbing Bureau through the State of Idaho Division of Building and Safety to have the water and septic lines from the residence to the septic tank inspected.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- From septic tank to drainfield, a heavy-grade pipe is required--3033 PVC, 3034 PVC, Schedule 40 PVC, Schedule 40 ABS.
- Drainfields must follow the contour of the hillside and maintain level.
- Drainrock must be a washed, ½ inch to 2 ½ inches in diameter and must be clean.
- Drainrock systems must be covered throughout with untreated building paper, a synthetic filter fabric (geotextile), a three-inch layer of straw or other acceptable permeable material.
- Precasted or PVC inlet and outlet sanitary tees will be required on all septic tanks and must extend into liquid layer.
- There are several gravelless systems on the market now (see diagram regarding 10" gravelless and domed gravelless).

MINIMUM SEPTIC TANK REQUIREMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Minimum Size (One to Four Bedroom Home) is 1000 gallons.
2. Each additional bedroom requires 250 gallons additional volume.

MINIMUM HORIZONTAL SETBACKS, IN FEET

Component of System	Well or Suction Line	Water Line Pressure	Body of Water* or Stream	Dwelling Foundation	Property Line
Building Sewer	Public 100 Private 50	10	--	--	--
Septic Tank	Public 100 Private 50	Public 25 Private 10	50	5	5
Drainfield or Abs. Bed	100	25	100-300	Basement - 20 Slab or Crawl Space - 10	5

*Distance measured to high water mark. Exact distance depends on soil type.

