



Jefferson County Public Health

Department: Jefferson County Public Health		Division: Environmental Health		Section of Procedure Manual: Environmental Health and Water Quality – Onsite Sewage Program	
Title: Water and Sewer Line Separation					
Subject: Requirements for water and sewer line cross-over/under and parallel installation not approved as part of design					
Effective Date: 04/20/16		Replaces (date): New		Renewal Due 5/1/2019):	
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Requirements for water and sewer line cross-over/under and parallel installation

Effective this date, the following policy and procedure shall be implemented to establish specific requirements for non-perforated gravity and pressure sewer line crossing or parallel installations of water lines that occur on private property between a water meter, well or property line and the structure.

Washington State Code Chapter 246-272A Onsite Sewage Systems states that the separation between a water line and all onsite sewage system components is ten feet (10'). Further, it states that the local health officer **may** approve a sewer transport line within ten feet of a water supply line if the sewer line is constructed in accordance with section C1-9 of the Department of Ecology *"Criteria For Sewage Works Design, "August 2008.*

The purpose of this document is to provide clarity in the requirements of WAC246-272A regarding the separation between sewage transport lines and water lines and assist staff and onsite sewage professionals in handling cases where the approved design and standard separations cannot be met.

In general, perpendicular crossings and parallel installation of water and sewer lines should be avoided and line(s) rerouted if at all possible. Where conditions exist that will limit the ability to maintain the standard setbacks, they should be addressed in the design phase of the project and appropriate mitigations included. However, when conditions change and the crossing or parallel installation was not addressed, the following criteria for review shall apply:

Application shall be submitted by a licensed Designer or licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) to request placement of a water line less than 10' from a sewer line. A Technical Assistance Review fee shall be charged at an hourly rate with a minimum one hour charge. An approved application form shall be used. The application shall be submitted with the following:

- A narrative description of why reduced separation is needed
- A site plan showing buildings, water and waste water lines, well/s if applicable, etc.
- Identify what standards will be met, what materials will be used. Identify the applicable section of the DOE Criteria for Sewage Works and provide cross section drawing. You can add to the minimum requirements if conditions warrant.
- Indicate the method of documentation that will be provided (i.e. included in record drawing, revised record drawing or updated site plan if no record drawing exists)

Applications will be reviewed by Environmental Health staff to make a determination if adequate protection has been provided or if additional mitigation is needed due to a greater potential for contamination, pollution, or exposure to the public.

If the DOE Criteria for Sewage Works standards cannot be met then an application for a waiver/variance from WAC246-272A will be required and site specific mitigations will be considered.

This policy does not apply to a reduction in the setback between perforated drainlines or other onsite sewage system components such as pre-treatment units and tanks.