

Environmental Health Services Division

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MEMORANDUM

September 14, 2000

TO: Wastewater Program Staff, King County Certified Designers, Master Installers and Interested Persons

FROM: Jim Henriksen, Supervisor, Wastewater Program

SUBJECT: Sand filter, course sand media

1. Sand Filter Course Sand

Q: *May the new sand filter coarse sand media option, described in the July 1, 2000 Department of Health Recommended Standards and Guidance for Intermittent Sand Filters, be used in constructing mounds?*

A. Yes, provided the specified increased minimum dosing frequency of not less than 18 times per day is also applied.

2. Mound Bed Design Loading Rate

Q: *The **maximum** mound bed design loading rate is now 1.0 gal/sq. ft/day. If a mound is preceded by an Intermittent Sand Filter (ISF) or other Title 13 recognized Treatment Standard No. 2 device, may the maximum bed loading design rate of 1.2 gal/sq/ft/day (as per the previous mound guidance document) be used?*

A. Yes, on the basis that sewage effluent has been pretreated to Treatment Standard No. 2 in a preceding ISF at not more than 1.0 gal/sq.ft./day **or**, pretreated by another Title 13 recognized method providing Treatment Standard No 2.

3. Soil Log Hole Diameter & Minimum Construction

Upon review of OSS Site Design Applications, Health staff are noting increasing numbers of sites have inadequately sized and/or prepared soil log test holes. Be reminded that Title 13 requires soil log holes to be of sufficient size and depth to adequately demonstrate, to the designer as well as to the regulator, soil texture and vertical separation. In particular, please insure the following are part of your routine soil test procedures:

- Soil log excavations must not be less than two (2) feet in diameter. This minimum required diameter applies to the entire depth of the excavated log hole.
- Log holes excavated to support repair proposals must also meet the above minimum requirement (i.e. 2 foot diameter throughout the entire depth) unless otherwise authorized by the District Environmental Health Specialist.
- Soil/spoils excavated from log holes must be located at least two feet from the edge of the excavation. This is a major safety issue in the case of an excavated pit.

Please review and ensure your design work complies with sections of the code pertaining to soil logs (e.g. Section 13.08.470, Section 13.28.050, and Section 13.28.060).

4. Wastewater/Drinking Water Program

Greg Bishop has been assigned from the Solid Waste Program to the Wastewater Program as the Eastgate District Environmental Health Supervisor. You may contact Greg at (206) 296-9753. Bill Heaton, previous Supervisor at Eastgate, has been assigned as Program Supervisor of the Solid Waste Program. Bill is now working at the Wells Fargo Center.

Mark Allen has now resumed his Senior Environmental Health Specialist responsibilities at the Eastgate District Office. Mark's phone number remains (206) 296-9747.

5. Sensitive Area Designation – Draft Ordinance

For your information and comment, please find attached a draft ordinance proposed by Department of Permitting and Environmental Review (DPER) pertaining to a new option for Sensitive Areas determination.