

Thurston County  
Permitting System Policies & Procedures

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Page 1 of 1

Number: #ONST.00.POL816

Title: Review of Single Family Well Sites for the Sewage System Design Process

Related: ONST.00.POL815

Approved by:   
Environmental Health Division Director

Date: Effective January 1, 2001  
Revised December 6, 2001

Cancels: New

RCW/Code:

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*This policy defines how single family well sites will be incorporated into the on-site sewage system design process.*

**1. This policy shall only apply to lots created after October 15, 1995.**

Lots that were created between October 15, 1995 and the implementation date of this policy were created using a more stringent well siting standard. This policy relaxes these conditions and allows development of lots created during this time period to the standards noted in this document.

**2. Well sites previously approved during the subdivision process shall be shown in the same location on the on-site sewage system design.**

**Except:** If the applicant or lot owner wishes to change the approved well site location, then the process outlined in Procedure #ONST.00.PRD.816 shall be met.

**3. In the event that the well is drilled in a location other than that approved during the landuse process, the applicant or lot owner shall A) comply with requirements outlined in Procedure #ONST.00.PRD.816 or, B) Decommission the well as per Department of Ecology standards prior to conditional approval of the sewage system design.**

**4. Setbacks to the well shall conform to standards listed in WAC 173-160-171 and Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code. (See Appendix I)**

**5. The applicant or lot owner shall be responsible for obtaining a copy of the sewage system design or subdivision approval information showing the well site location, and providing this information to the licensed well driller.**

**Thurston County  
Permitting System Policies & Procedures**

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**Page: 1 of 2**

**Number: Procedure #ONST.00.PRD816**

**Title: RELOCATION OF EXISTING WELL SITES**

**Related:**

**Approved:**

  
**Environmental Health Division Director**

**Date: Effective January 1, 2001**

**Revised December 6, 2001**

**Cancels: New**

**RCW/Code: WAC 246-272, Article III  
Article IV**

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**Action by:**

**Property Owner (or their representative)**

**Environmental Health Specialist**

**Action:**

1. Submits a site plan showing the new well site location and pays the well site inspection fee (If a landuse project or sewage system is currently being reviewed, a fee is not required).
2. Submits a site plan showing the new well site location.
3. Records protective covenants (if required by EH staff)
4. Reviews the information submitted.
5. Conducts well site inspection.
- 5A. Notifies property owner if well site is unacceptable.

## APPENDIX I

*Minimum setback distances for water wells other than for public water supplies.*

1. Five feet from any building projection. The only structures that wells may be located in are buildings solely dedicated for housing the well head and other water system components.
2. Fifty feet from any septic tank, septic holding tank, septic containment vessel, septic pump chamber, septic distribution box, or sandfilter.
3. Fifty feet from any building sewers, collection and non-perforated sewage/septic distribution lines.
4. One hundred feet from the edge of a drainfield, proposed drainfield which has been approved by the health authority, and reserve drainfield area.
5. One hundred feet from all other sources or potential sources of contamination except for solid waste landfills.
6. One thousand feet from the property boundary of a solid waste landfill.
7. One hundred feet from the high water mark of any saltwater body (unless a variance is granted by the Washington State Department of Ecology)