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Number: ONST.11.POL.847

Title: INTERLACING / FINGERING DRAINFIELDS ACCEPTED CRITERIA

Related: None

Approved: 

Environmental Health Director

Date: 07/5/11

Cancels: New

RCW/Code: Article IV, Sections 8.1.3.1, 9.7.3,
and 11.5.5.9

This policy outlines the design and installation criteria the department requires for a proposed OSS design that includes placement of reserve trenches between primary trenches.

1. The following design criteria must be met:

- A. Size the reserve (secondary) drainfield at least as large as the primary drainfield.
- B. Design pressure distribution with timed dosing.
- C. Use the table below to determine the separation of pipes in active laterals:

Vertical Separation (inches)	Distances Pipes Center to Center (feet)
At least 24	9
18 < 24	12
12 < 18	15

- D. Site the drainfield in accordance with slope requirements in current sewage regulations.
- E. Include one monitoring port in each trench of both primary and reserve.
- F. Specify the frequency of alternating drainfields based on the table below:

Soil Types	Alternate Fields Every
1 through 3	4 years
4 through 6	1 year

- 2. Both the primary and reserve drainfields must be installed at the same time.
- 3. A construction plan must be submitted with the design to the department by a certified installer. The construction plan must show how the job will be staged, the site prepared, and the OSS installation phased in order to retain and protect the soils in the drainfield location.
- 4. An Operational Certificate will be required.
- 5. The department will follow the current OSS siting and design criteria for the creation of new lots. Smaller lot sizes through the use of interlacing drainfields will not be approved.