

On-Site Sewage Disposal

248-96-016

WAC 248-94-140 Water and air pressure tests. The plumbing system should be subjected to a water or air pressure test and to a final inspection in such manner as will disclose all leaks and imperfections in the work. [Regulation .94.140, effective 3/11/60.]

- 248-96-140 Inspection.
- 248-96-160 Waiver of regulations.
- 248-96-170 Disposal of septic tank waste.
- 248-96-175 Sewage contractor's license.
- 248-96-180 Evaluation and revision.

WAC 248-94-150 Clogging substances. No substances which will clog the pipes, produce explosive mixtures, or destroy the pipes or their joints should be allowed to enter the building drainage system. [Regulation .94.150, effective 3/11/60.]

WAC 248-96-010 Authority. Pursuant to the authority of RCW 43.20.050 (Powers and Duties of State Board of Health), these regulations are hereby established as minimum requirements of the state board of health, governing on-site sewage disposal systems for individual homes and any other source of sewage. [Order 101, § 248-96-010, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-94-160 Food receptacles and the drainage system. Refrigerators, ice boxes, or receptacles for storing food should not be connected directly with the drainage system. [Regulation .94.160, effective 3/11/60.]

WAC 248-96-011 Purpose and objectives. These regulations provide for a uniform framework through which local boards of health will establish a system of local regulations. Such local regulations will integrate local conditions consistent with uniform state standards to accomplish the following objectives:

WAC 248-94-170 Location of water closets. No water closet should be located in a room or compartment which is not properly lighted and ventilated to the outer air. [Regulation .94.170, effective 3/11/60.]

(1) Establish design standards to accommodate long-term disposal of sewage using on-site methods for rural areas.

WAC 248-94-180 Disposal where no sewers. If water closets or other plumbing fixtures exist in buildings where there is no sewer within reasonable distance, suitable provisions should be made for disposing of the building sewage by a method of disposal which meets the requirements of the Washington state department of health. [Regulation .94.180, effective 3/11/60.]

(2) Establish design and management system criteria to permit on-site methods of sewage disposal for subdivisions and suburban areas where significant population growth is occurring or likely to occur.

(3) Establish minimum functional regulations and guidelines for health jurisdictions choosing not to adopt local regulations. [Order 101, § 248-96-011, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-94-190 Backflow requirements. Where a building drainage system may be subjected to back flow of sewage, suitable provision should be made to prevent its overflow in the building. [Regulation .94.190, effective 3/11/60.]

WAC 248-96-012 Scope. The regulations do not apply, except as specifically noted, to public sewage collection, treatment and disposal systems. Sections WAC 248-96-018 through 248-96-180, excluding 248-96-045, 248-96-046, 248-96-075, and 248-96-180 of these rules and regulations shall become effective and enforced by the health officer if the provisions of WAC 248-96-015 are not met. [Order 101, § 248-96-012, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-94-200 Sanitary maintenance. Plumbing systems should be maintained in a sanitary condition. [Regulation .94.200, effective 3/11/60.]

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WAC 248-96-015 Local regulation. All local boards of health shall adopt local rules and regulations governing on-site waste disposal systems within eighteen months after the effective date of these regulations. Such local rules and regulations and guidelines must be consistent with the state board of health regulations and guidelines and must be approved by the secretary in accordance with the procedure outlined in section WAC 248-96-016 of the state board of health regulations. If any local board of health fails to adopt rules and regulations consistent with intent and purpose of the state regulations, the state regulations shall become effective and they shall be enforced by the local health officer within his jurisdiction. [Order 101, § 248-96-015, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-016 Local regulations approval procedure. (1) Within six months after the passage of these regulations, all local health departments shall submit to the secretary for approval a copy of their proposed or

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existing local regulations governing on-site waste disposal systems. All local regulations must include appropriate sections corresponding to WAC 248-96-018 through 248-96-180.

(2) Upon reviewing the local regulations, the secretary shall consider all factors relevant to the administration of local health department's program including land development activities, basic soils and climatic conditions, local program priority and staffing, and sewage basin planning.

(3) After receiving the local regulations, the secretary shall have 60 days to either approve or disapprove the proposal. Within four months after the initial approval by the secretary, the local health department shall provide to the secretary a copy of the adopted local regulations. No changes can be made in the adopted local regulations from the original submittal without written authority from the secretary.

(4) If the secretary determines that the local regulations are not consistent with the purpose and objectives of the state board of health regulations, he shall provide in writing to the local health department, his specific reasons for not approving the local regulations. All decisions by the secretary shall be appealable to the state board of health within 120 days after the disapproval has been received by the local health department. Re-submission of revised local regulations may occur any time after disapproval has been received.

(5) Nothing in these regulations shall prohibit the adoption and enforcement of more stringent regulations by local health departments where such regulations are needed to protect the public health and welfare. [Order 101, § 248-96-016, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-018 Administration. The health officer shall administer these regulations under the authority and requirements of chapters 70.05 and 43.20 RCW. As provided in RCW 70.05.060(7), he may charge fees for this administration. [Order 101, § 248-96-018, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-020 Definitions. (1) "Approved" - The term "approved" shall mean acceptable by the health officer as stated in writing.

(2) "Cover" - shall mean fill material that is used to cover a subsurface disposal area to a maximum depth of 18 inches.

(3) "Fill" - shall mean soil materials that have been displaced from their original location.

(4) "Ground water" - subsurface water occupying the zone of saturation.

(5) "Health officer" - the health officer of the city, county, city-county, or district health department or his authorized representative.

(6) "On-site sewage disposal system" - any system of piping, treatment devices, or other facilities that convey, store, treat, or dispose of sewage on the property where it originates or on adjacent or nearby property under the control of the user where the system is not connected to a public sewer system.

(7) "Person" - any individual, corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock company, or any branch of state or local government.

(8) "Public sewer system" - a sewerage system which is owned or operated by a city, town, municipal corporation, county, political subdivision of the state, or other approved ownership consisting of a collection system and necessary trunks, pumping facilities and a means of final treatment and disposal and under permit from the department of ecology.

(9) "Secretary" - the secretary of the state department of social and health services or his authorized representative.

(10) "Septic tank" - a watertight receptacle which receives the discharge of sewage from a building sewer, and is designed and constructed so as to permit separation of settleable and floating solids from the liquid, detention and digestion of the organic matter, prior to discharge of the liquid portion.

(11) "Sewage" - the water-carried human or domestic waste from residences, building, industrial establishments or other places, together with such ground water infiltration, and other wastes as may be present.

(12) "Subdivision" - a division of land, as defined in chapter 58.17 RCW, now or as hereafter amended.

(13) "Surface water" - any body of water, whether fresh or marine, or watercourse, including lakes, impoundments and streams. [Order 101, § 248-96-020, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-040 Applicability. (1) These regulations shall not apply to new construction for which a permit was issued prior to the effective date of the regulations or to existing systems where extensions or alterations are undertaken as a result of failure of the system or portions thereof, or pursuant to an order of the health officer.

(2) Lots, parcels or tracts that have received written approval by the health officer prior to the effective date of these regulations shall be subject to only the design section of these regulations (WAC 248-96-110) and any additional standards prescribed by the health officer. Provisions of this subsection shall also include extensions of existing systems to handle increase in flows from dwelling unit expansion.

(3) Subdivisions recorded prior to the effective date of these regulations and that have not received written approval by the health officer, shall be subject to the requirements of the county regulations in effect at the time of recording and other standards deemed necessary by the health officer.

(4) These regulations shall not apply to facilities constructed or operated in accordance with a permit issued by the Washington state department of ecology and where they may be in conflict with chapters 90.48 or 70.95B RCW, said RCW shall govern. [Order 101, § 248-96-040, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-045 Other types of disposal units. Units other than septic tanks or devices that can function as septic tanks with subsurface disposal systems, including but not limited to chemical toilets, vault privies,

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incinerator toilets, mechanical and aerobic treatment devices, evapotranspiration systems, may be used but only with the prior approval of the health officer in accordance with the procedure established in WAC 248-96-046. [Order 101, § 248-96-045, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-046 Alternate devices and methods. Any alternate device or method shall first be submitted to the secretary for technical evaluation and report in accordance with guidelines established by a technical review committee and the secretary. The secretary is hereby authorized to appoint a technical review committee for purposes of establishing said guidelines. Such guidelines shall include national standards including but not limited to guidelines of the National Sanitation Foundation. The committee shall be composed of representatives from local health departments, manufacturers, consumer organizations, engineering firms, the department of ecology, a public sewer utility, and other interested organizations. Approval authority for the application, installation or use of any alternate device or method is vested with the local health officer provided the device or method has first been given a technical evaluation and report by the secretary in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. This section shall not become effective until one year after the effective date of these regulations. [Order 101, § 248-96-046, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-050 No discharge to waters or ground surface. (1) Effluent from any on-site sewage disposal system shall not be discharged to surface water or upon the surface of the ground.

(2) Subsurface on-site sewage disposal systems shall not be permitted in areas where a minimum separation of three feet between the bottom of the disposal field and the maximum seasonal ground water elevation or impermeable layer cannot be maintained. The health officer shall require such greater vertical separation as needed to protect health when the aquifer is used for a potable water supply. The health officer may reduce the vertical separation provided the local health department has in effect an adequate designer program as described in WAC 248-96-130. However, in no case shall the separation be less than one foot.

(3) Subsurface on-site sewage disposal systems shall not be permitted in areas of fractured rock or excessively permeable material where it is likely that action of the solid profile will be ineffective in retaining and removing substances having an adverse effect on ground waters. [Order 101, § 248-96-050, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-060 Connection to public sewer system. (1) Connection of any dwelling unit or other premise where sewage originates shall be made to a public sewer system where there is an adequate public sewer within 200 feet of the dwelling or other facility to be served, and such connection is permitted by the sewer utility. Such connection shall be made and use of the on-site sewage disposal system discontinued when repair or replacement of the on-site sewage disposal system is required or as directed by local ordinance, whichever is

sooner, but in any case shall be accomplished within two years after public sewer service becomes available. This requirement may be waived if the health officer determines that such connection is not feasible.

(2) If the distance between the facility to be served and an adequate public sewer is greater than 200 feet, and where the anticipated sewage flow is greater than 1,000 gallons per day, connection shall be made thereto if the health officer determines that a connection is feasible and such connection is permitted by the sewer utility.

(3) Where connection to public sewer is required, the same shall be made in accordance with rules, regulations and resolution of the public sewer utility providing sanitary service: *Provided, however,* That if the public sewer utility's requirements are less restrictive, subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall apply. [Order 101, § 248-96-060, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-070 On-site system management. (1) When subdivisions or multiple housing units are designed to have gross densities that exceed 3.5 housing units or 12 people/acre or waste flows of 1,200 gallons/acre/day, on-site sewage disposal systems shall not be permitted unless the perpetual maintenance and management of the sewage disposal systems are under the responsibility of an approved management system as identified in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

(2) Proposed on-site sewage disposal systems to be located within the boundary of an operating public sewer utility shall be approved by the sewer utility prior to the issuance of a permit. If the proposed system serves a density greater than that identified in subsection (1) of this section, the maintenance of the sewage disposal system shall be the responsibility of the sewer utility or dry sewers shall be provided as approved by the department of ecology and applicable public sewer utility having jurisdiction in accordance with an approved sewage drainage basin plan.

(3) Sewage disposal systems serving housing densities and/or flows exceeding that identified in subsection (1) of this section and not located within the boundary of an operating public sewer utility, shall have an approved perpetual maintenance and management system as established under the guidelines developed by the secretary, the department of ecology, and the local government responsible for public utilities. The guidelines shall take into account the comprehensive land-use plan for the jurisdictional area and size of development.

(4) Within six months after the effective date of these regulations, the secretary shall develop guidelines describing an approved on-site waste management system. [Order 101, § 248-96-070, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-075 Larger systems. Guidelines governing the review, approval procedure and authority for larger systems shall be developed jointly between the department of social and health services, the local health departments, the department of ecology, and municipal sewer utilities. However, until such guidelines are established, the following rule shall apply:

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In all cases where the maximum design flow of any on-site disposal system is greater than 14,500 gallons per day, prior to instituting construction of the system, a copy of the construction plan shall be submitted to the secretary, who shall review the proposed system to determine that its use will be consistent with protection of the public health. No health officer shall issue a permit for such a system until it has been approved by the secretary. [Order 101, § 248-96-075, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-080 Permit. (1) No person shall install a new on-site sewage disposal system, nor perform major alterations, extensions or relocations of an existing system without a valid permit issued by the health officer. Permits for alterations or repairs shall be so identified. Application for such permit shall be made in writing in a manner prescribed by the health officer.

(2) When applying for a permit to install an on-site sewage disposal system, a construction plan of the proposed system is required. The construction plan shall contain information as required by the health officer in sufficient detail and to a scale which will permit a proper evaluation of the application. Such information should contain the following as a minimum:

- (a) Name of applicant and legal description of site.
- (b) Soil logs describing nature and depth of soils.
- (c) Percolation test data where required.
- (d) Anticipated maximum seasonal ground water table.
- (e) General topography of the site and site drainage characteristics.
- (f) Distances of proposed system to water supplies, surface water, banks or cuts, boundaries of property and structures or other improvements.
- (g) Distance to public sewer system. [Order 101, § 248-96-080, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-090 Minimum lot sizes for subdivisions. One of the following methods shall be used for determining lot sizes when on-site sewage disposal is used.

METHOD (1)

TABLE I MINIMUM LOT SIZE SOIL TYPE

WATER SUPPLY	SOIL TYPE					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Public	1* acre	12,500 sq.ft.	15,000 sq.ft.	18,000 sq.ft.	20,000 sq.ft.	—
Individual— Each Lot	2* acres	1 acre	1 acre	1 acre	2 acres	—

Soil Type	Drainage	Percolation Rate**	General Soil Classification
1	Excessive	Less than 1 minute/inch	Gravel, coarse sand, cobbles
2	Good	1 - 4 minutes/inch	Sandy soil, some loam, some gravel
3	Fair	5 - 9 minutes/inch	Finer sand and/or silt, few gravels
4	Poor	10 - 19	Mostly silt or

Soil Type	Drainage	Percolation Rate**	General Soil Classification
5	Marginal	20 - 29 minutes/inch	clay, some sand and silt or clay
6	Unacceptable	Over 30 minutes/inch	Gumbo, rock, hardpan, clay pan

* Lot sizes for soil type 1 can be reduced by the health officer if engineering justification can be provided that shows significant adverse effects on ground water quality will not occur; however, in no case shall the reduced size be less than that for soil type 2.

** The requirements for percolation tests may be waived by the health officer if existing soils information, such as soil logs, soil maps and Soil Conservation Service data, is sufficient to accurately classify soils.

METHOD (2) On-site sewage disposal systems shall be installed on lots, parcels, or tracts that have a sufficient amount of area with proper soils in which sewage can be retained and treated properly on-site. If engineering justification can be provided that a lot or lots have a sufficient amount of area with proper soils to adequately retain and treat sewage on-site, taking into consideration those factors outlined in subsection (2), then minimum lot size will be established by the health officer on the basis of the information submitted. Factors that must be considered when determining minimum lot size include but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Soil type and depth.
- (b) Area drainage, lot drainage.
- (c) Protection of surface and groundwaters.
- (d) Setbacks from property lines, water supplies, etc.
- (e) Source of domestic water.
- (f) Topography, geology and ground cover.
- (g) Climatic conditions.
- (h) Availability of public sewers.
- (i) Activity or land use, present and anticipated.
- (j) Growth patterns.
- (k) Individual and accumulated gross effects on water quality.
- (l) Reserve areas for additional subsurface disposal.
- (m) Anticipated sewage volume.

METHOD (3) If the lot or lots are within the jurisdiction of an approved sewer utility which will provide maintenance and operation responsibility and replacement of systems as necessary, then minimum lot sizes shall be established jointly between the sewer utility, the local health, planning, established county public works departments, and other applicable local agencies. [Order 101, § 248-96-090, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-095 Determination of soil characteristics. (1) Preliminary tests for subdivisions involving more than one disposal system shall be made in the amount of at least one representative soil log and percolation test per acre or tract or more as required by the health officer.

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(2) At least two percolation tests and one soil log shall be performed at the site of each disposal area. This requirement may be waived by the health officer if adequate soils information is available. Additional tests may be required where the soil structure varies or if large disposal areas are required.

(3) All percolation tests and soil logs shall be performed by or under the direct supervision of a registered sanitarian, professional engineer or approved designer, except as specified in WAC 248-96-130.

(4) If a sufficient amount of information is not available on water table conditions, the health officer can require that percolation tests and soil logs be conducted during the months of suspected high water table conditions.

(5) All soil tests shall be conducted using a uniform procedure developed by the secretary and the local health officers. Such procedures shall be developed within six months after the effective date of these regulations. [Order 101, § 248-96-095, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-096 Larger tract requirements. The requirements found in WAC 248-96-050(2) and WAC 248-96-090 may be reduced by the health officer for lots, parcels or tracts of 1/128th a section or more. [Order 101, § 248-96-096, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-100 Location. (1) The minimum distance for location of the various component parts of the on-site sewage disposal system is measured horizontally and shall comply with Table II.

TABLE II MINIMUM DISTANCE IN FEET

Component	Well or Suction Line (a)	Water Supply Line Under Pressure	Surface Water (a)(b)(c)	Building	Property Line	Open Ditches or Cuts Down Hill Side
Building sewer	50	10	10	—	—	—
Septic tank	50	10	50	5	5	—
Tile field or dry well	100	10	100	10	10	15 + Height of cut or bank

(a) In soil types that are classified as having excessive drainage characteristics in accordance with WAC 248-96-090, the distance from any water supply or surface water may be increased by the health officer.

(b) Setbacks from surface waters shall be measured from mean high water.

(c) A reduced separation can be allowed between the tile field or dry well and the well or surface water by the health officer if it can be demonstrated that the reduction will not have an adverse effect. However, in no case shall the separation be less than 75 feet.

(d) The area to be used for sewage disposal shall be selected and maintained so that it is free from encroachment by buildings and other structures. The area shall

not be subject to vehicular traffic and shall not be covered with an impervious surface.

(3) The on-site sewage disposal system shall not be located in an area where surface water will accumulate. Provisions shall be made to minimize flow or accumulation of surface water over the area.

(4) No part of an on-site sewage disposal system shall be constructed in a state flood control zone, before a flood control zone permit is obtained from the department of ecology. Such permits are issued under the provisions of chapter 86.16 RCW and chapter 508-60 WAC. [Order 101, § 248-96-100, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-110 Design. (1) The detailed design and construction of all systems shall conform to the "Manual of Septic Tank Practice," U.S. Public Health Service Publication No. 526, 1967, or any succeeding edition, except where modified by, or in conflict with these regulations.

(2) The system shall be designed to receive all sanitary sewage and domestic waste from the building served unless otherwise approved by the health officer. Footing or roof drains shall not enter the sewage disposal system.

(3) The size of the effluent absorption area shall be determined by the results of percolation tests performed in accordance with WAC 248-96-095 together with an evaluation of soil data, drainage conditions, and such other related data as may be required by the health officer.

(4) All septic tanks shall be designed in accordance with subsection (1) of this section.

(a) All tanks must have a minimum of two compartments.

(b) "Materials" - septic tanks and dosing tanks shall be constructed of corrosion resistant material, and shall be watertight. They may be constructed of poured in-place concrete, precast reinforced concrete, concrete blocks with mortar joints, or other materials approved by the health officer and the secretary.

(c) Suitable baffles and/or tees shall be provided to prevent floating solids from leaving the tank.

(d) Access and cleanouts shall be provided for easy inspection and removal of the tank contents.

(5) Effluent shall be disposed of by means of subsurface disposal fields except when special approval for other disposal systems is granted by the health officer and the secretary.

(a) The installation and use of cesspools for disposal of sewage is not permitted.

(b) Seepage pits shall not be used for the disposal of septic tank effluent except under special conditions approved by the health officer. The depth of approved seepage pits shall not exceed 10 feet from finished grade unless approved by the department of ecology.

(c) Sewage holding tanks shall not be used as a permanent method of sewage disposal for residential dwelling units.

The health officer may allow holding tanks on an interim use basis to handle emergency situations or to correct existing problem systems.

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The health officer may allow holding tanks for controlled part-time use situations such as recreational vehicle parks and trailer dump stations: *Provided*, That an approved on-site system management program as provided by WAC 248-90-070 is in effect.

(6) The subsurface disposal system generally shall not be installed in fill. Fill can be used as cover over a subsurface disposal area up to a maximum depth of eighteen (18) inches provided that no portion of the absorption trenches are installed in this material.

The health officer may allow installation of a subsurface disposal system in fill that has been in place a period of time and has stabilized to the point where site conditions and soil tests show the site to be satisfactory to allow full compliance with provisions of these regulations.

(7) Construction on slopes in excess of 15% but not greater than 30% may be allowed: *Provided*, That soil profiles indicate no restrictive layers of soil and appropriate engineering design is provided.

(8) The absorption trench shall be installed no closer than ten (10) feet to an interceptor drain line provided the interceptor drain is on a slope higher than the absorption trench. If the interceptor drain is below the absorption trench, the drain shall be installed no closer than 30 feet. [Order 101, § 248-96-110, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-130 Designer program. If a designer program is established, all plans, specifications, and percolation tests submitted to the health officer must be designed and certified by either a registered sanitarian, professional engineer or a designer licensed by the health officer. The health officer may waive any or all portions of the requirements of this section for single family dwellings only. [Order 101, § 248-96-130, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-140 Inspection. The health officer may make inspections during construction to determine compliance with these regulations. No part of any installation shall be covered until approval has been obtained from the health officer. The health officer may waive this requirement provided the installation has been made by a person licensed under WAC 248-96-175 and a designer program has been established according to WAC 248-96-130. Once an on-site system has been installed and is approved, a complete set of certified "as-built" drawings shall be provided to the health officer for a permanent record of the installation. [Order 101, § 248-96-140, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-160 Waiver of regulations. Whenever a strict interpretation of these regulations would result in extreme hardship, the health officer may, upon concurrence of the secretary, waive such regulation or portion thereof: *Provided*, That the waiver is consistent with the intent of these regulations and that no public health hazard will result. [Order 101, § 248-96-160, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-170 Disposal of septic tank waste. (1) The contents of a septic tank or other treatment device

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shall be disposed of only in areas and in a manner approved by the health officer.

(2) Local boards of health shall establish requirements for persons engaged in the removal of septic tank contents, which shall include standards for equipment and operating procedures and may provide for the issuance and revocation of permits. [Order 101, § 248-96-170, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-175 Sewage contractor's license. Local boards of health shall establish requirements for persons, firms, or corporations engaged in the business of installing or repairing on-site sewage disposal systems. The requirements shall include a license or permit issued for a period not to exceed one year, an examination of the competence of the licensee to perform this work which may include a written test, and such other evaluation as the health officer may deem appropriate. The requirements shall include a means of revoking a license for non-compliance of established rules and regulations. [Order 101, § 248-96-175, filed 6/10/74.]

WAC 248-96-180 Evaluation and revision. These regulations shall be reviewed and evaluated annually. Revision shall be made as needed to insure proper administration and to allow for newer methods of on-site sewage disposal. The secretary is directed to appoint a special review committee for purposes of reviewing and recommending changes to these regulations. Members of the committee shall be selected from the land development and real estate industry, local health departments, planning, sanitarian and engineering organizations, consumer and environmental groups, state regulatory agencies, and a representative of a public sewer utility. [Order 101, § 248-96-180, filed 6/10/74.]

Chapter 248-98 WAC
SWIMMING AND WADING POOLS--BATHING
BEACHES

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WAC 248-98-001 Definitions. (1) The term "public swimming pool" as used in these regulations shall mean an artificial pool of water having a depth of 24 inches or more used for swimming or recreative bathing together with buildings and appurtenances in connection therewith, and shall be construed as including all pools of water used for swimming or recreative bathing, in which it is necessary to employ such measures as the addition