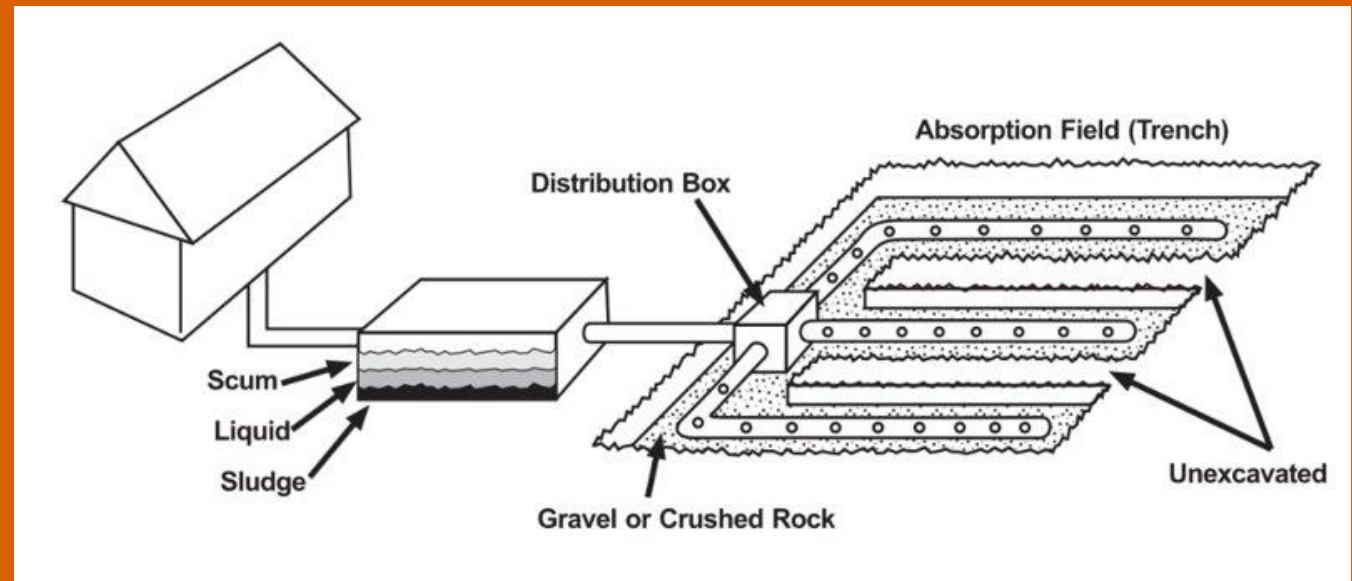


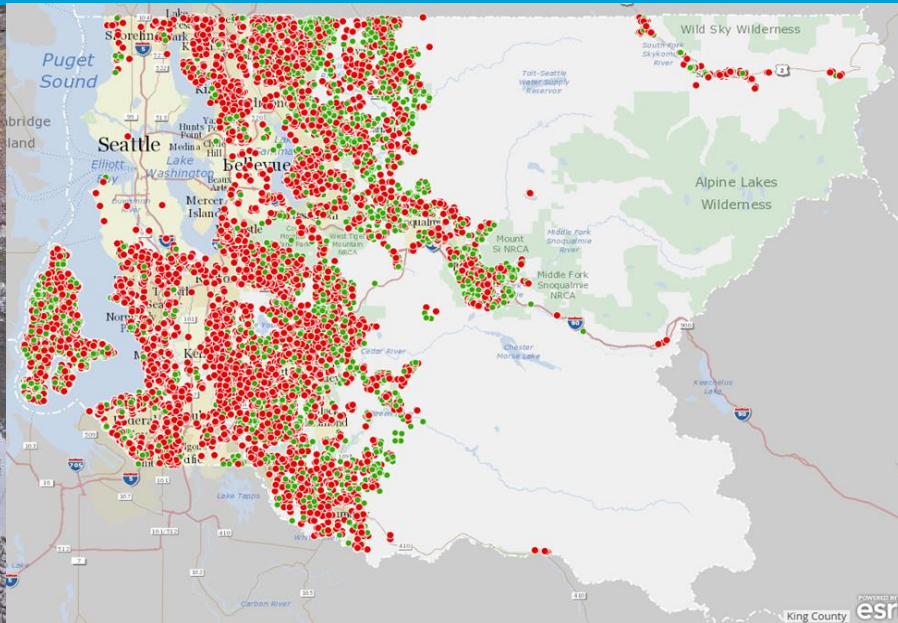
On-site Sewage System (OSS) 2024 Code Revisions

Lynn Schneider & Corrina Marote
OSS Programs
Environmental Health Services Division
Public Health – Seattle & King County

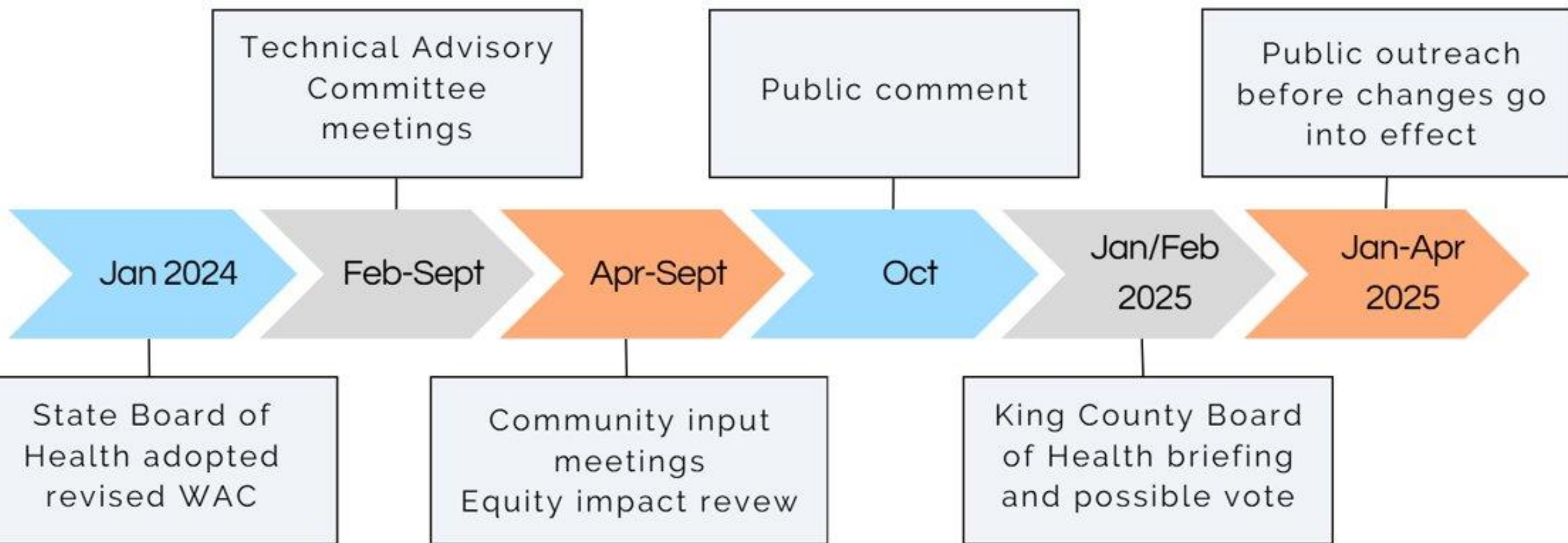
January 16, 2024



The OSS Program permits OSS installations and oversees maintenance to prevent exposure to untreated sewage and protect water quality for recreation and shellfish harvesting.



Proposed revisions are informed by thorough analysis and input from community and partners.



What we heard from community and partners

- Want more transparency and involvement
- Avoid overregulation
- Codes should prioritize reducing costs and removing restrictions on property use
- Need more education

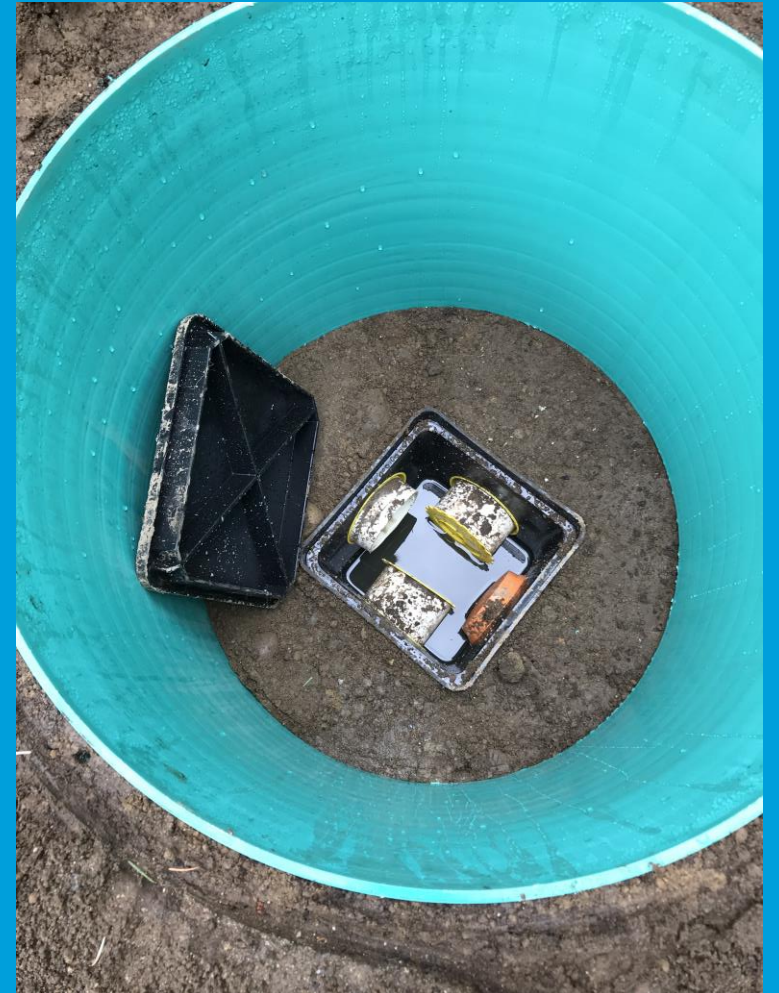




Proposed code revisions

Codes that align with WAC changes

- Remove permit requirements for minor repairs
- Increase minimum lot size by 500-1,000 square feet (depending on soil type)



Codes that reduce costs

- Add waiver process to permit OSS replacement when sewer connection is not feasible
- Reduce inspection frequency for proprietary OSS
- Remove some requirements for notices on title



Codes that remove barriers

- Allow smaller pressure distribution drainfields
- Reduce ADU sizing requirements
- Certified OSS pumpers allowed to pump and perform routine inspections of gravity OSS
- Extend TOS inspection timeline from 6 months to 12 months



Codes that support equitable implementation



- Require equity impact review for Local Management Plan update
- Add OSS Industry Code of Performance and Ethics
 - \$1,000 fine for Title 13 and Code of Performance and Ethics violations
 - \$1,000/day fine for unpermitted OSS installation
 - \$5,000 cap for property owner (waived when permitted OSS installed)
 - \$15,000 cap for company or person installing

On-going needs and questions

- Funding and policy opportunities to address wastewater infrastructure gap
- Additional research about wastewater treatment
- Education resources
- Local Management Plan update in 2025-2027

