

WHAT IS A SEP?

Septic Elimination Program, or a SEP is a yearly program that the District developed to assist existing neighborhoods in making public sanitary sewer available. The District helps with engineering and design, construction management and financial incentives to help property owners connect to public sanitary sewer.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE SEP?

The purpose of this program is for the District to assist neighborhoods that may be unable to obtain sanitary sewer through other means or programs that the District offers.

HOW DOES THE DISTRICT DECIDE WHICH NEIGHBORHOODS TAKE PART IN THE SEP FOR ANY GIVEN YEAR?

The District uses the following criteria to assess a neighborhood's need:

- Is there a health risk caused by currently failing on-site septic systems?
- Is there an environmental impact caused by on-site septic?
- Does the neighborhood have a high incidence of on-site septic system repairs?
- What is the average age of the on-site septic systems in the area?
- What is the level of interest for sanitary sewer in the area?

HOW DOES THE SEP PROCESS WORK?

The SEP is based on an annual cycle. Each year District staff makes a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) as to which neighborhoods should be included in the SEP for that year. Upon public involvement and approval by the BOC, District staff moves forward with design and construction.

WHAT KIND OF INCENTIVES ARE OFFERED THROUGH THE SEP?

If a property is connected within the first year after construction is complete, the following incentives are available:

- 30% construction cost deferral
- Low cost financing of mainline construction costs, on-site construction costs and connection fees

WHAT IF THE PROPERTY IS NOT CONNECTED WITHIN THE FIRST YEAR?

The SEP incentives are only available during the first one-year period. If a property owner does not connect in the first year, the actual construction costs will be assessed to the property in the form of a Local Facilities Charge (LFC).

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT FEE AMOUNTS?

The current fees are listed in the District's Financing Options/Sewer Fees and Charges pamphlet.

DO THE NON-PARTICIPATING PROPERTIES HAVE TO CONNECT WITH THE PROJECT?

No, the District does not require connection but the costs of the construction will be assessed to the properties in the form of a Local Facilities Charge (LFC). The LFC will be assessed to the Title of the respective property for their portion of the project. Even though the assessed LFC is not technically a lien because it is only due upon connection to sewer, the LFC does show up under the Lien section of a Title search report.

An LFC being treated as a standard lien depends on the lending institution(s) involved and has been required to be retired during a property sale in some instances.

Note that in some instances, Clark County Public Health may have previously issued a conditional permit for repairs of an existing on-site septic system on a property involved with a Customer Generated Infrastructure (CGI). This is known as a Table 9 repair permit and under the conditions of this permit that property would be required by Clark County Public Health to connect when public sanitary sewer is made available.

**DOES THE DISTRICT HAVE
OTHER PROGRAMS OR
PROCESSES TO OBTAIN
SANITARY SEWER?**

Yes, the District has other programs to assist with the extension of sanitary sewer:

- Customer Generated Infrastructure (CGI)
- Developer Extension Agreement (DEA)
- District Installed Infrastructure (DII)
- Side Sewer Assistance Program
- Utility Local Improvement District (ULID)

The District also takes advantage of other instances that assist in supplying public sanitary sewer at a lower cost, such as in conjunction with a Clark County Road Improvement project or a development project. These projects are installed through District Installed Infrastructure (DII).



If you have any questions about this program, please contact:

Clark Regional Wastewater District

Engineering Services

8000 NE 52 Court
Vancouver, WA 98665
(360) 750-5876
Fax (360) 750-7570

Or through our website at

www.crwwd.com



**SEPTIC
ELIMINATION
PROGRAM**

(SEP)

**SANITARY
SEWER
EXTENSIONS**

