



EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CHAPTER 246-272A WAC

Washington State Board of Health

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Presenter

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Director

Office of Environmental Health and Safety

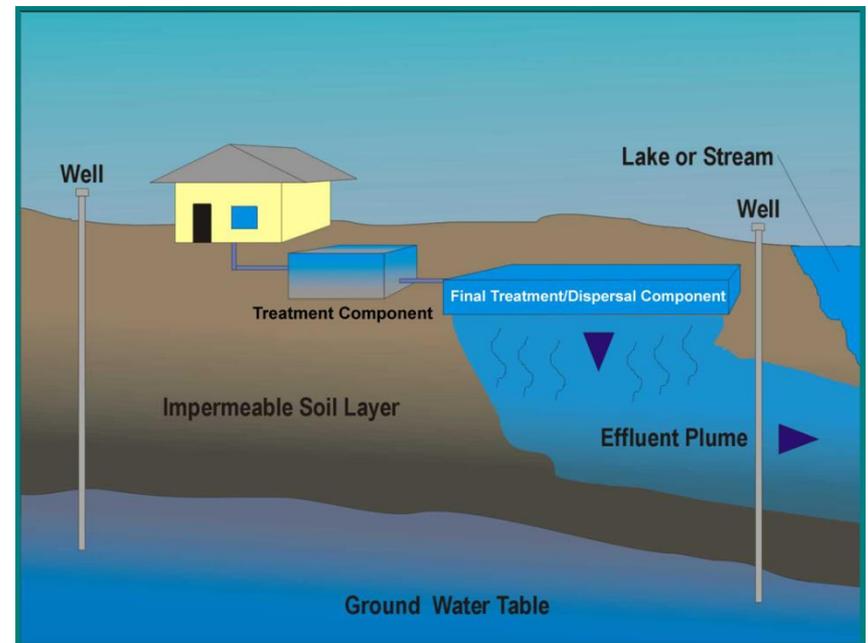
Division of Environmental Health

360-236-3302

Chapter 246-272A WAC

The on-site sewage system rule protects public health by minimizing:

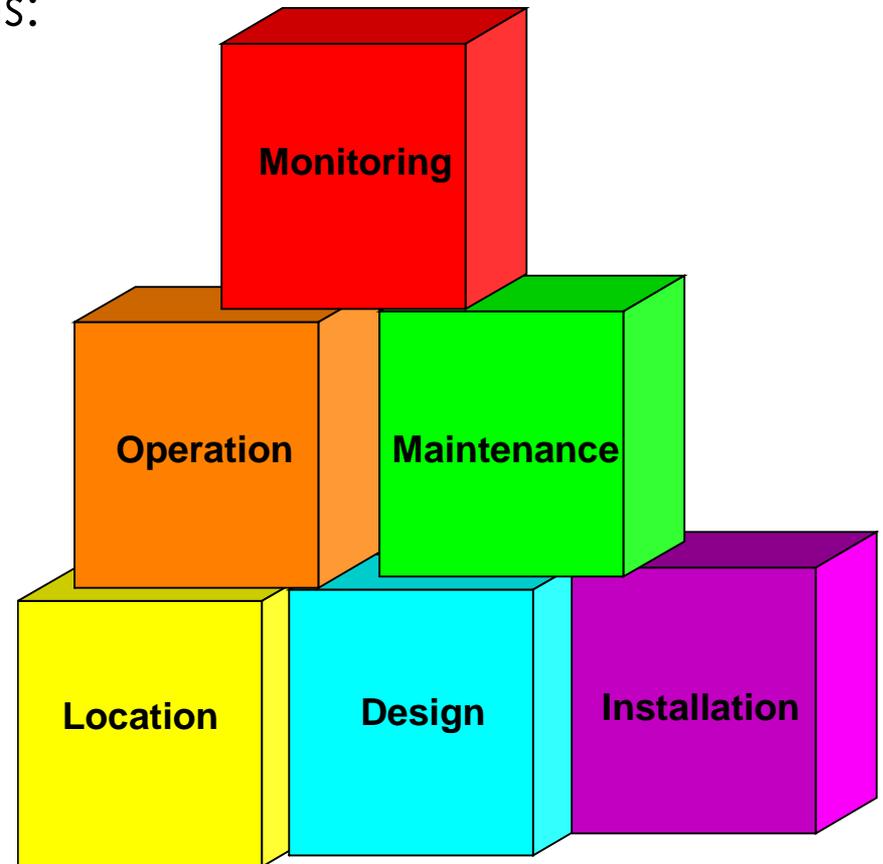
- The potential for exposure to sewage from on-site sewage systems
- Adverse effects of discharges from on-site sewage systems on ground surface waters



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Regulates on-site sewage systems:

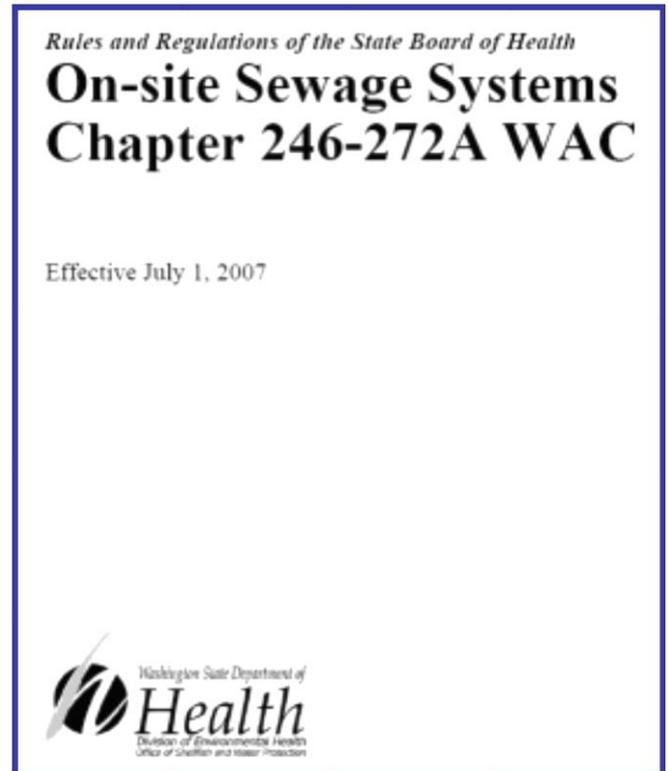
- Location
- Design
- Installation
- Operation
- Maintenance
- Monitoring



Chapter 246-272A WAC

Requirements for local health jurisdictions:

- Local rules must be reviewed by the Department of Health
- If no local rules, chapter 246-272A WAC is in effect
 - Local health jurisdictions who:
 - Adopted their own rules: 22
 - Adopted chapter 246-272A WAC by reference: 2
 - Defer to chapter 276-272A WAC: 11

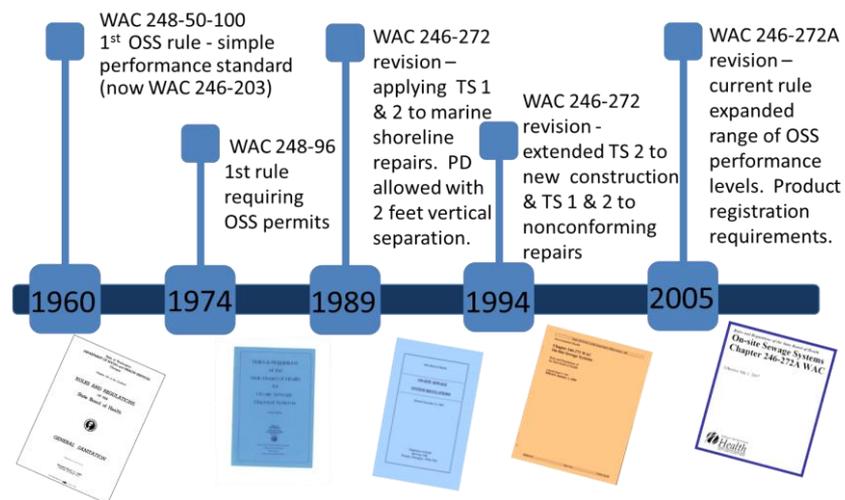


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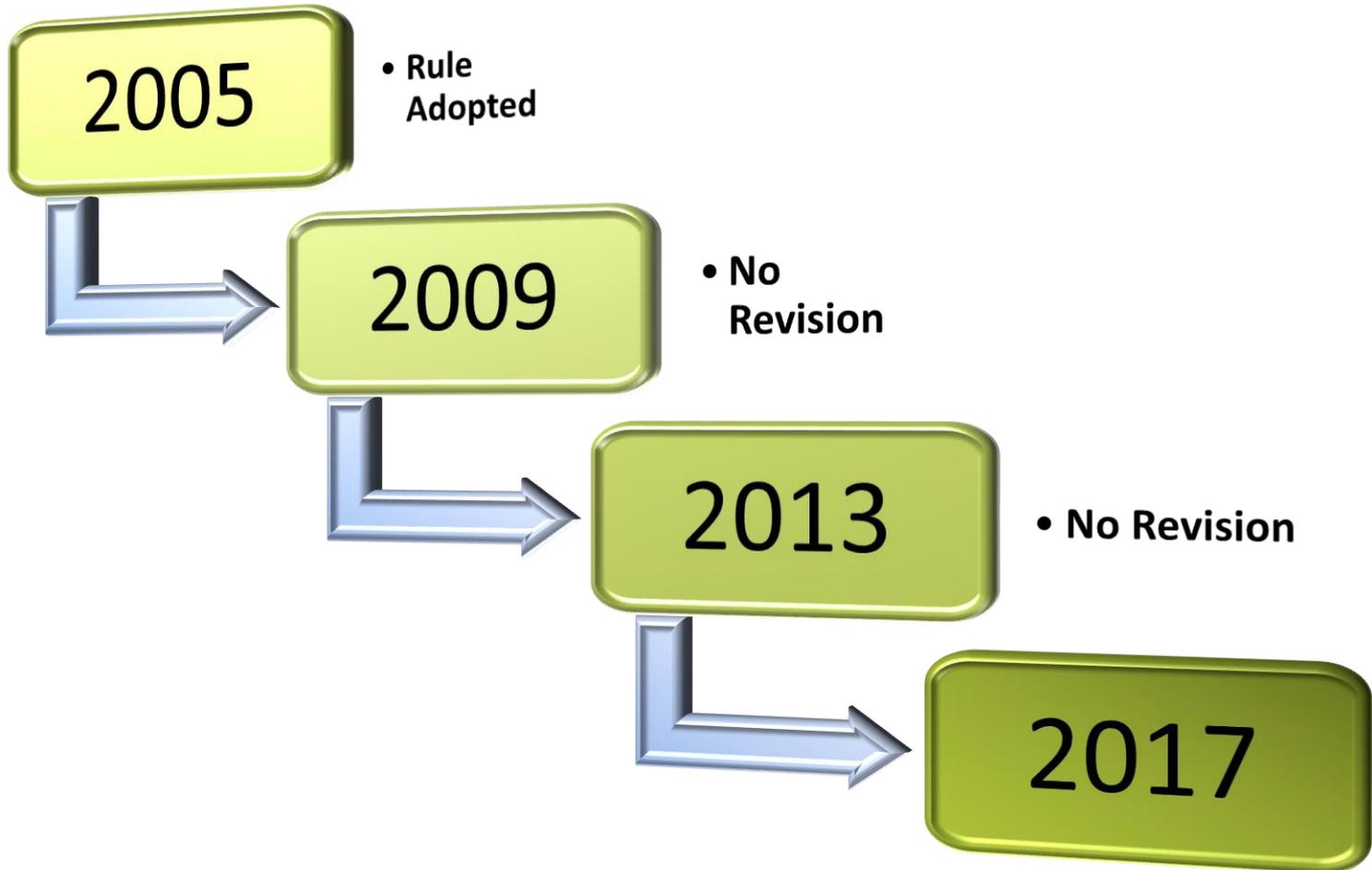
WAC 246-272A-0425 requires DOH to:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the rule every four years
- Determine if revisions are needed
- Report recommendations to the state board of health and local health officers

OSS Rule Time Line



Chronological Rule Reviews



Chapter 246-272A WAC

2017 Evaluation Process

- Online survey sent to all the environmental health directors
- Technical advisory group meeting
- On-site system rule review panel meeting
- Internal review



2017 Evaluation Stakeholders

Onsite Rule Review Panel

- LHJs
- Shellfish Industry
- Dept. of Ecology
- Installer
- Homeowners/Citizens (COOMWA)
- O&M Provider
- Engineer
- WOSSA
- Proprietary Product Manufacture
- Tulalip Tribe
- National Estuary Program
- Environmental Advocacy Groups

Survey of LHJs

- Asked If The Rule Provides Statutory Intent
- 32 of 35 LHJs Participated

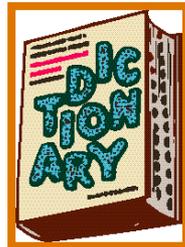
Technical Advisory Group

- Addressed Technical Issues
- Designer, Installer, O&M Provider
- Engineer
- LHJs from Different Regions of State
- Realtor
- Certified Soil Scientist

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Seven Key Issues Were Identified

- Definitions



- Local management plans



- Property transfer inspections

Treatment Levels Table VI

Vertical Separation	Soil Type		
	1	2	3 — 6
≥12" < 18"	A	B	B
≥18" < 24"	B	B	B
≥24" < 36"	B	C	E
≥36" < 60"	B	E	E
≥60"	C	E	E

- Application of treatment levels

 Pressure distribution with time-dosing

 Pressure distribution

 Gravity distribution

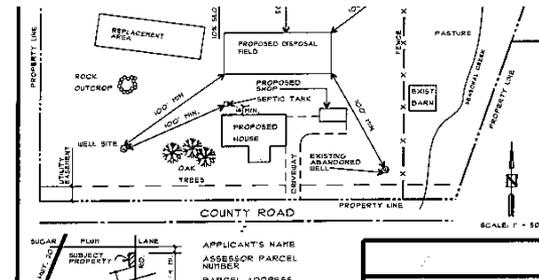
Chapter 246-272A WAC

Seven Key Issues Were Identified (continued)

- Ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection effectiveness and approval



- Horizontal setbacks (system location)



- Statewide O&M service providers licensing



Conclusions

- Stakeholder majority believe revisions are needed in system design, maintenance, and monitoring requirements.
- Seven key issues identified are significant enough to warrant rule revisions.
- An additional eighteen medium ranking issues were identified where changes will improve rule effectiveness.
- A thoughtful revision process driven by diverse stakeholders will produce the most balanced and equitable regulations that are protective of public health while not being over-burdensome.

Recommendation

- Initiate rule revision as soon as possible.

Questions?

