



MASON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Public Health (Environmental Health)
360-427-9670, ext. 400 or 360-275-4467, ext. 400
415 N 6th Street - Shelton, WA 98584

MASON COUNTY APPROVED SEWAGE DISPOSAL ALTERNATIVES LIST AND COMPARISON TO ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEMS

(as of Feb 2018, regulations and requirements subject to change)

	MASON CO. PERMIT REQUIRED?	SATISFIES BLACK WATER REQS.?	SATISFIES GREY WATER REQS.?	ELECTRICAL REQS.?	MAINTENANCE REQS.?	ADDITIONAL SEWAGE SYS. REQUIRED?	* APPROX. INSTALL COST COMPARISON
ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEM (OSS)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		\$\$\$ - \$\$\$\$
GREY WATER SYSTEM	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	\$\$-\$\$\$\$
GREY WATER RE-USE SYSTEM	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	\$\$\$
COMPOSTING & INCINERATOR TOILET(S)	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	\$
RV HOLDING TANK	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		\$

* Installation costs listed are for illustrative purposes only and based on staff experience and knowledge of industry. Applicants are responsible for obtaining actual costs involved.

- Onsite Septic System:** An onsite septic system is designed to settle, treat, and dispose of all residential sewage sources (black and grey). Mason County recommends contacting a septic designer to inquire OSS possibilities and costs, prior to permitting an alternative system. This system has regular maintenance requirements.
- Grey Water Only System:** Grey water systems can offer slightly smaller tank and drainfield sizing requirements, compared to an OSS. Grey water systems must meet same treatment requirements as a typical onsite sewage system. These systems must be accompanied by another sewage system to handle the black water from the residence. This system has regular maintenance requirements.
- Grey Water Re-Use System:** Grey water re-use can only be permitted with a full onsite sewage system. Both systems must be installed, for the grey water re-use can only be used during the growing season. Due to the expenses involved with permitting and maintaining both systems, it can be an expensive option for residential use. These systems must be accompanied by another sewage system to handle the black water from the residence during the growing season. This system has regular maintenance requirements.
- Composting/ Incinerator Toilets:** Composting and Incinerator toilets can be permitted and installed, provided they are an approved system by Washington State Dept. of Health. WSDOH maintains a list of approved sewage treatment devices, which includes the approved makes/ models for composting and incinerator toilets. An additional sewage system is required. This system has regular maintenance requirements.
- RV Holding Tank:** An RV holding tank can be permitted and installed for part-time/ seasonal uses, restricted to recreational vehicles. Holding tanks can not be used for residential dwellings or structures. Holding tanks can be expensive to maintain/pump out depending on amount of use. Conditional requirements apply, such as a 1200 gal. tank, high water alarm, and installation by a certified installer. This system has regular maintenance requirements.

References: WAC246-272A, WAC246-274, Water Conserving On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems RS&G, WSDOH List of Registered On-site Treatment Distribution Products