

**OCTOBER 6
FRIDAY 9-10PM
OCTOBER 13 FRIDAY
2:30-3:30PM**


Public Health
Seattle & King County



Happy Septic Hour!

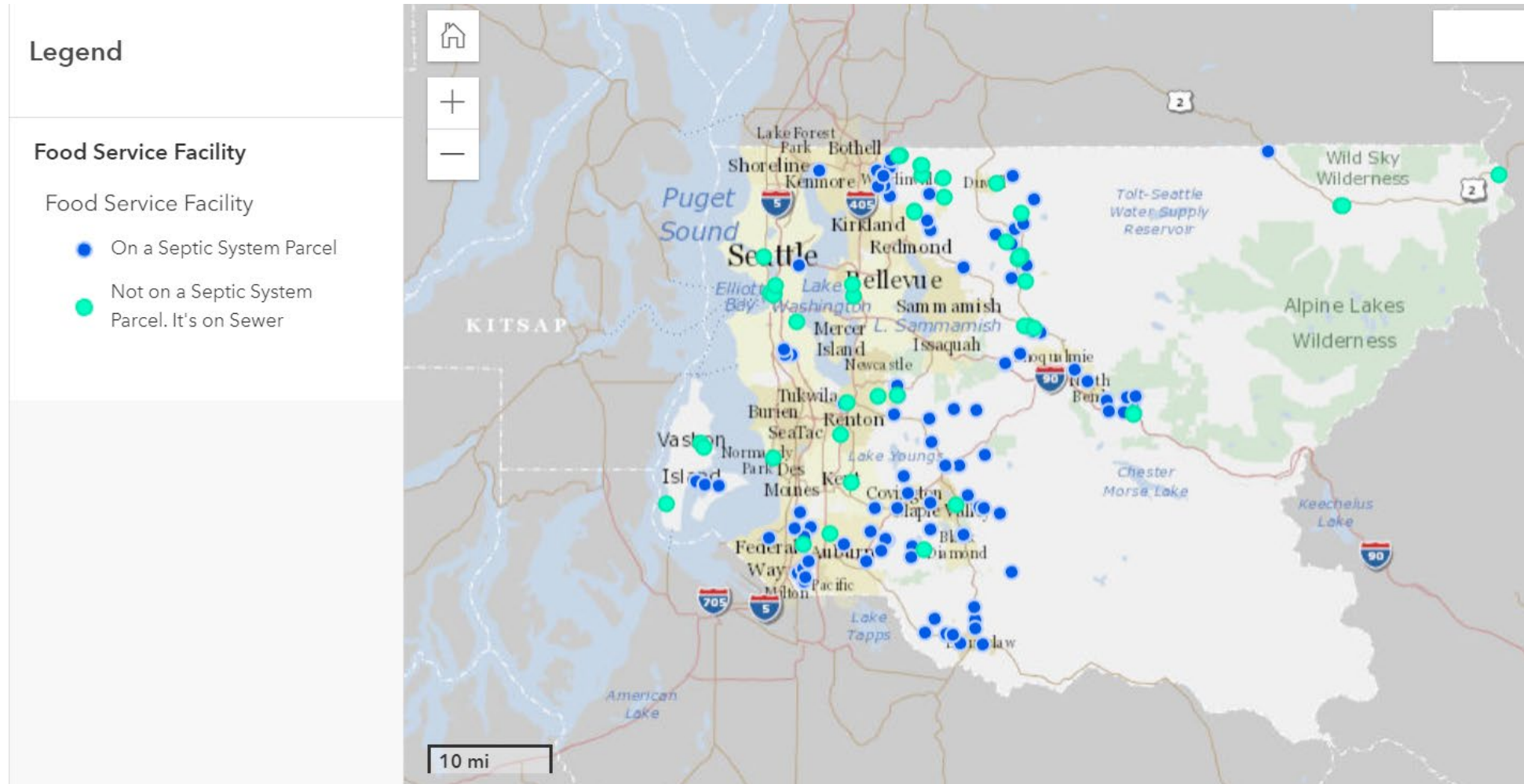
Welcome to the 1st Septic Workshop for Food Facility
Owners/Operators!

Contents

- Why do we care about septic maintenance?
 - How does a septic system work?
 - What does a septic maintenance involve?
 - How do I find my septic record?
 - What do I do to comply with the septic regulations?
 - Financial assistance
 - Questions and Answers
- 

Food facilities with OSS in King County

- [OSS Food Facility \(kingcounty.gov\)](http://kingcounty.gov)
- 145 Food Facilities in King County



Your septic system helps keep the environment safe and clean

Septic system helps disperse wastewater evenly to the ground for filtering and treatment.

Septic system care is your responsibility to ensure proper wastewater treatment in a facility.

If a septic system does not work properly, untreated wastewater may pose harm in the safety and health of the facility users.



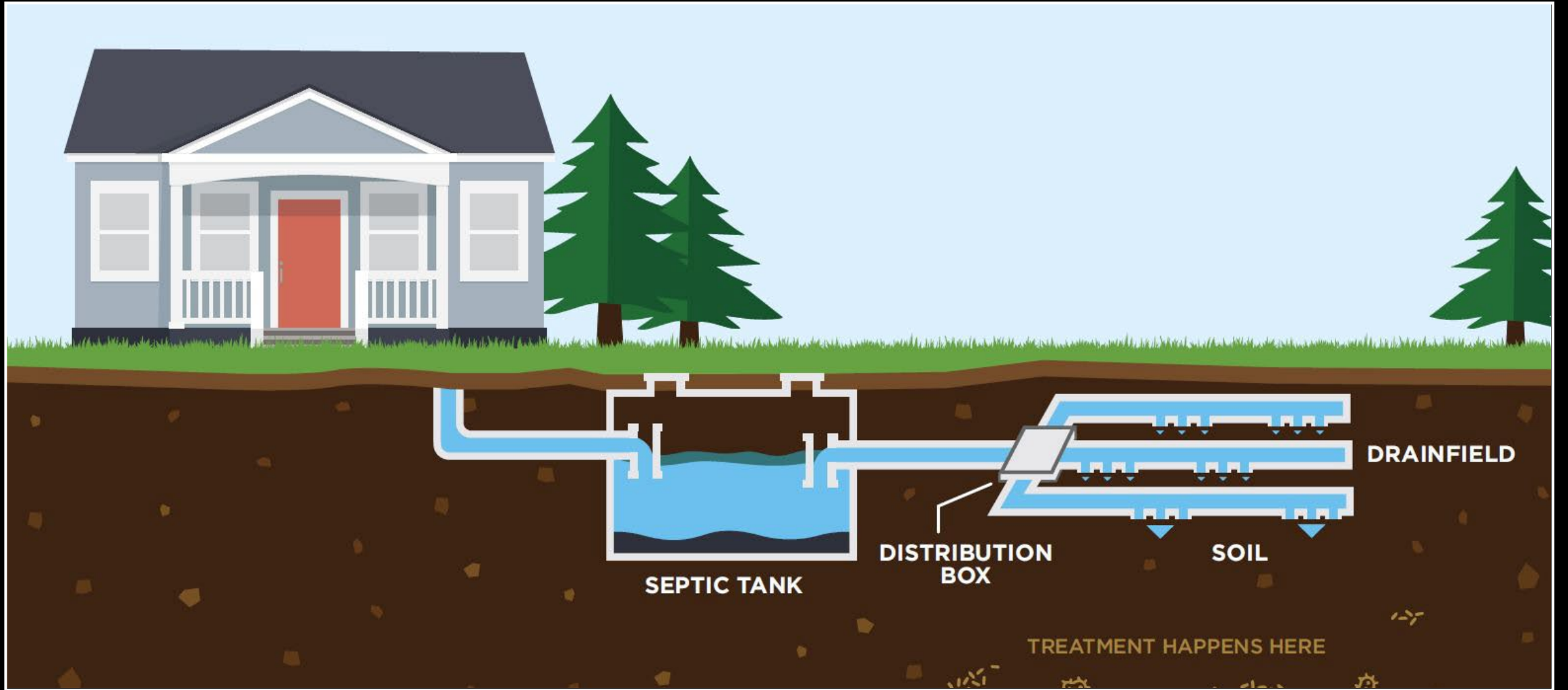
Shigella



Norovirus



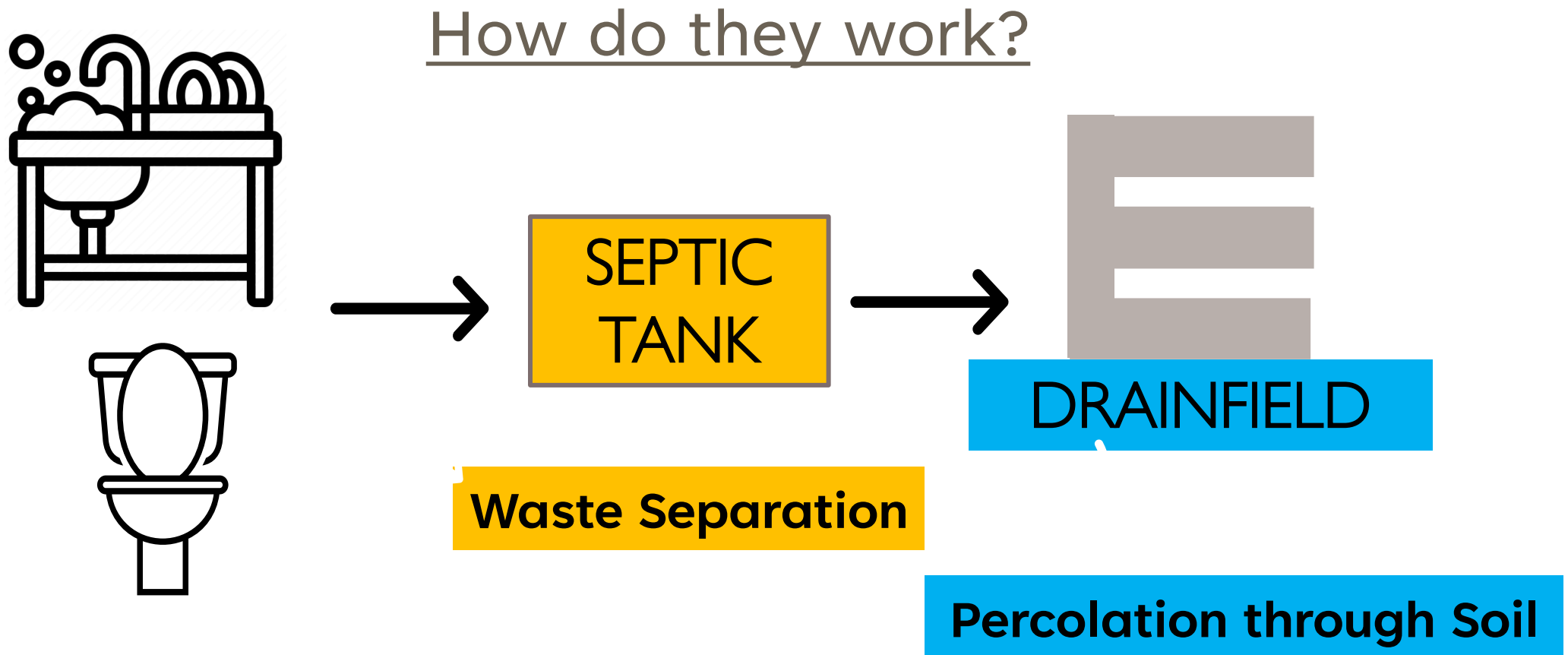
E.Coli



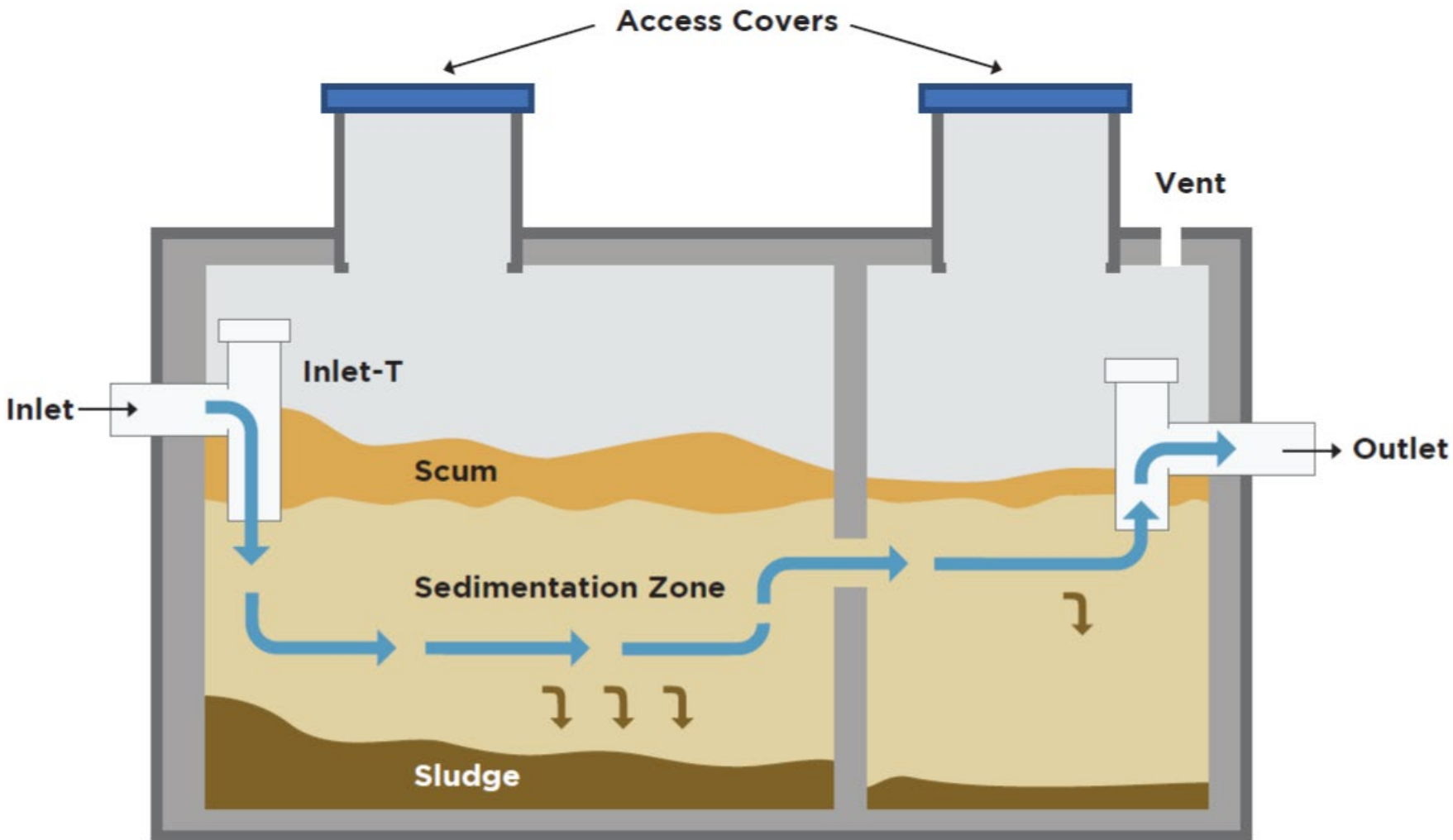
How does an on-site sewage system work?

What is an on-site sewage system?

On-site sewage systems, also known as OSS or septic systems, collect, treat and dispose of household sewage.



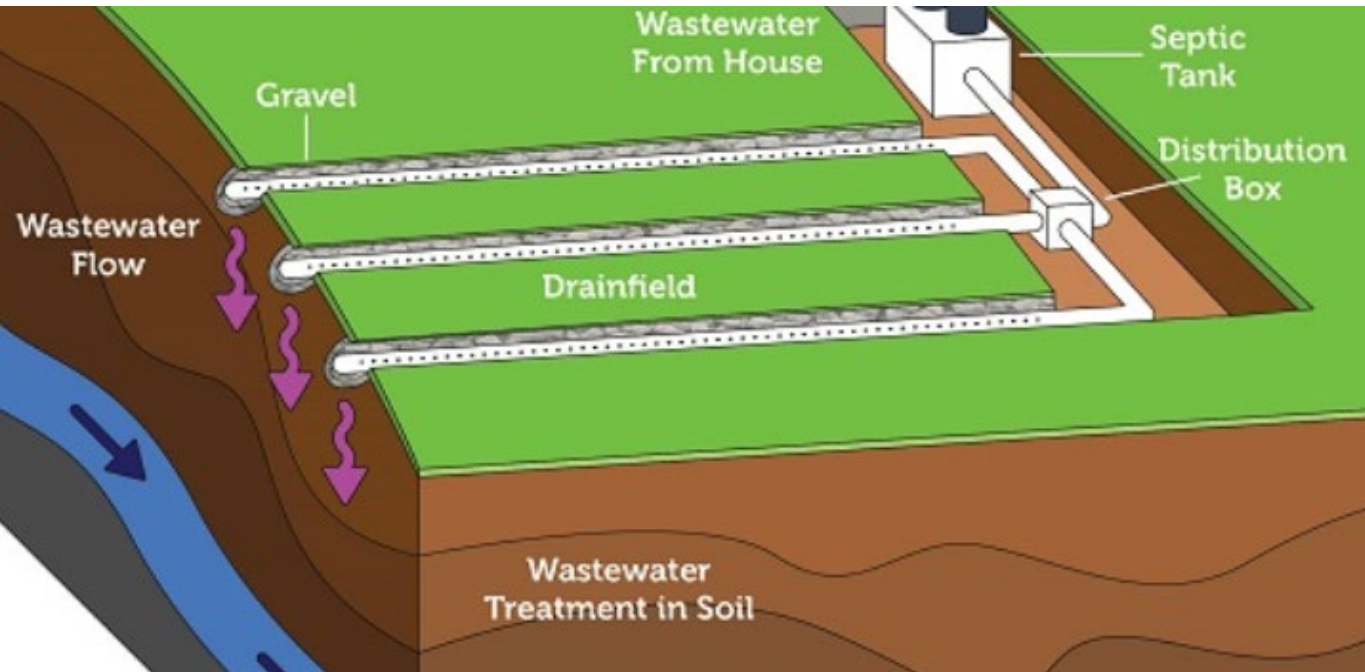
SEPTIC TANK



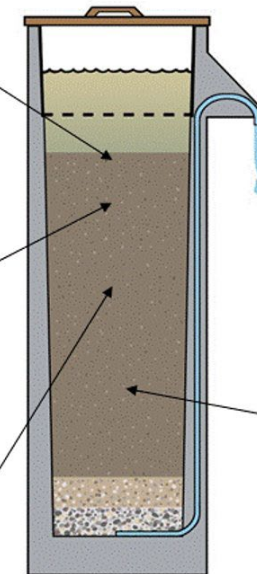
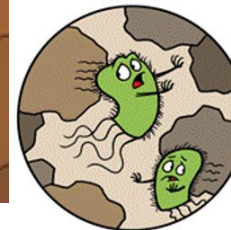
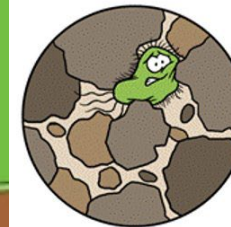
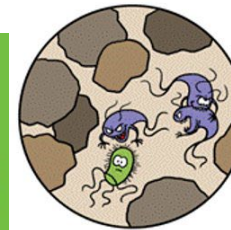
Solid waste (sludge) and grease/oils (scum) are separated and broken down by microorganisms.

Pump on a regular basis!

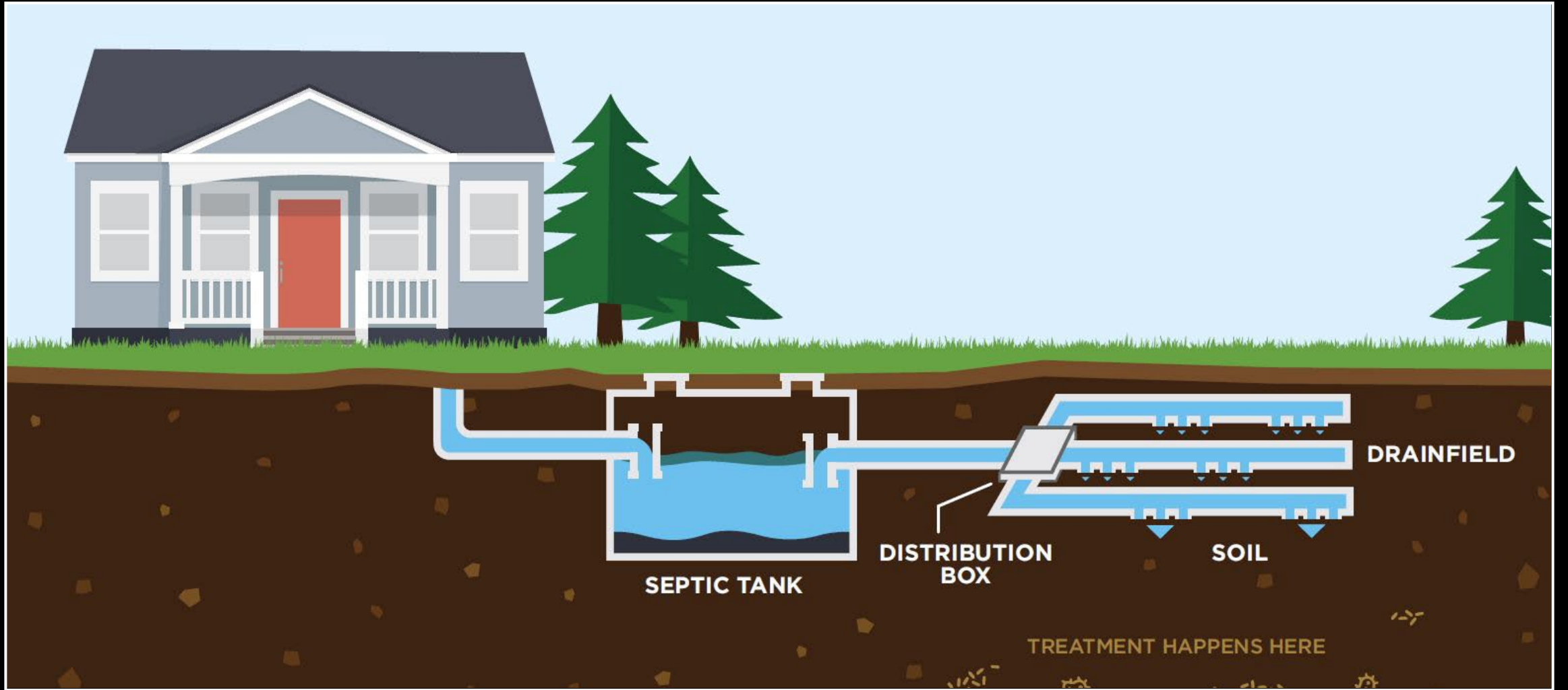
DRAINFIELD



US EPA

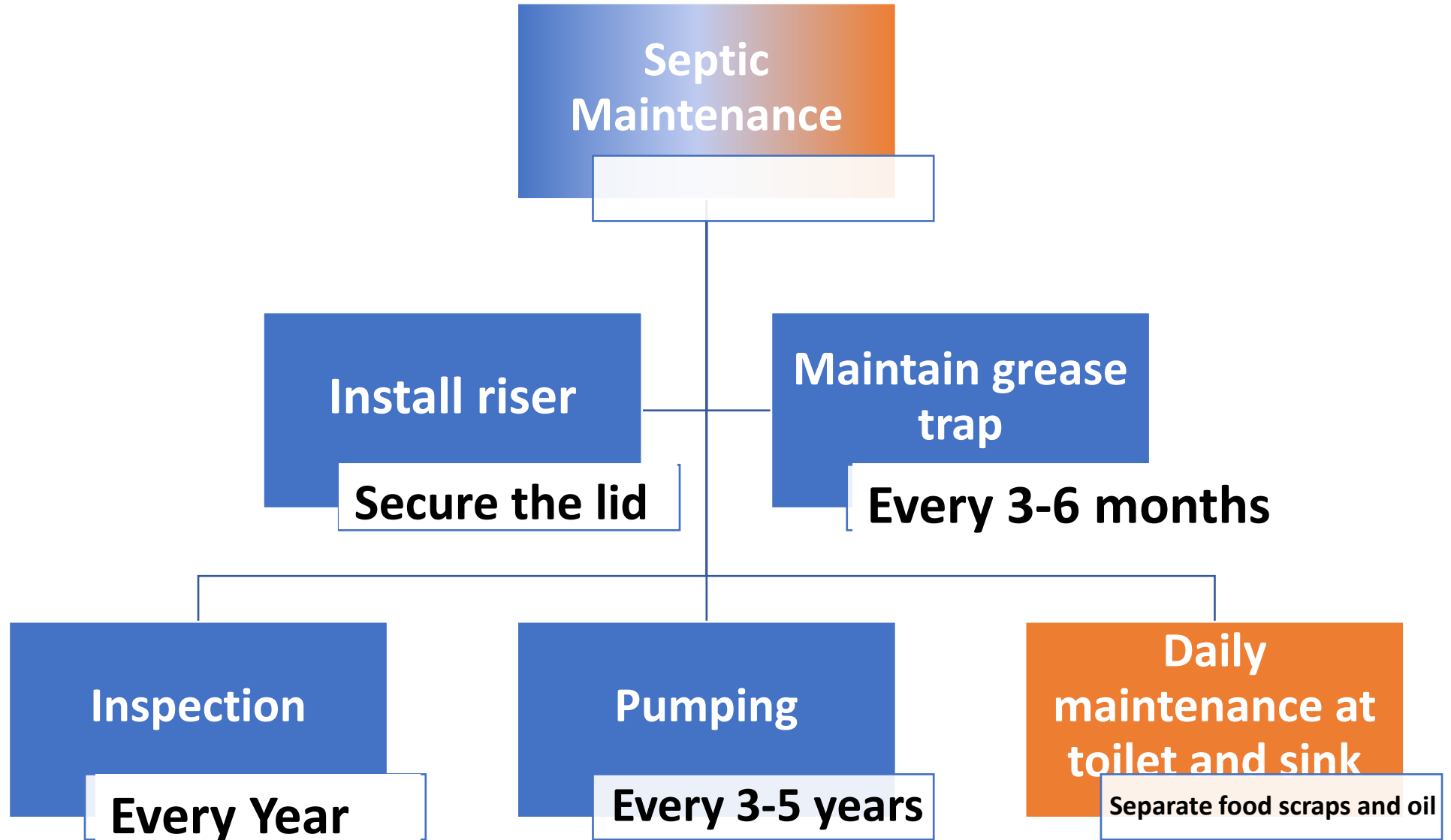


www.cawst.org



Be the hero for your system: maintenance is the key!

Caring for your septic REGULARLY is important



Why is maintenance important for your septic system?

Maintenance helps you to...

- Extend the life & efficiency of your system
- Avoid costly replacements or repairs
- Keep harmful pathogens away from you and your family
- Protect the water and health of life around you



Septic System Failure

The goal of good maintenance is to prevent or delay problems with the septic system, especially septic system failures. Sewage can start to surface on the ground or back up into your house, resulting in a health and environmental hazard.

Next Steps

- Inside? Outside? Can't wash hands?
Closure of facility?
- Use as little water as possible.
- Have a certified maintainer diagnose the issue (www.kingcounty.gov/oss/maintainer)
- Contact Public Health – Seattle & King County at (206) 296-4600.



How is septic maintenance in food facilities different from residential properties?

- Grease trap:
 - Must be designed and installed to ensure grease and oil solidify and not be mixed in wastewater.
 - It helps reducing the wastewater strength so that the wastewater can be treated by the septic system.
 - Grease trap should be cleaned every 3-6 months.
- Be mindful of food items off your drain:
 - Coffee grounds
 - Vegetable peels
 - Harmful chemicals



Protect It and Inspect It!



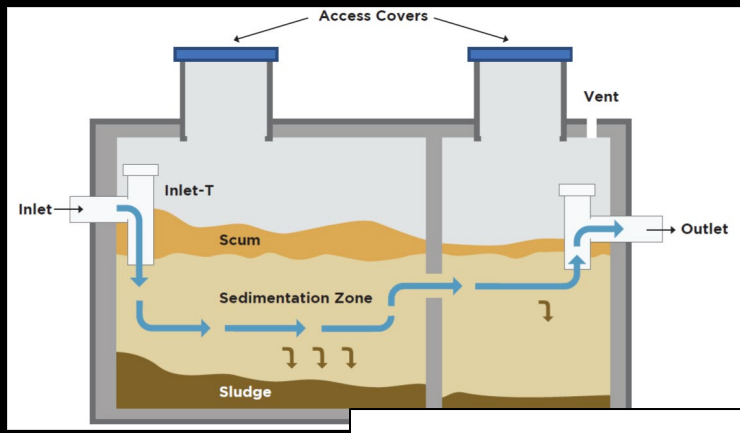
Inspection: first step!

- Contact King County Certified maintainers and get estimates/bids.
- Understand key components of septic inspection
- Ask questions to help you ensure the inspection is thorough.
- Inspection is required once every year for all food facilities.

Regular septic system maintenance can save homeowners thousands of dollars and protect public health. Learn more at www.epa.gov/septic.



Inspection: what to expect?



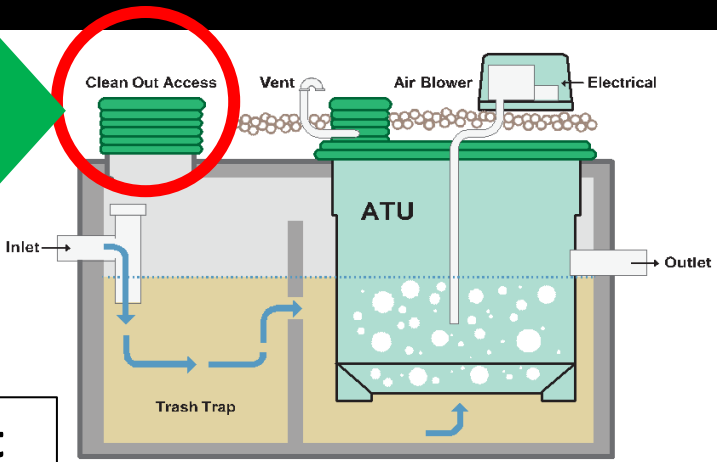
Septic Tank



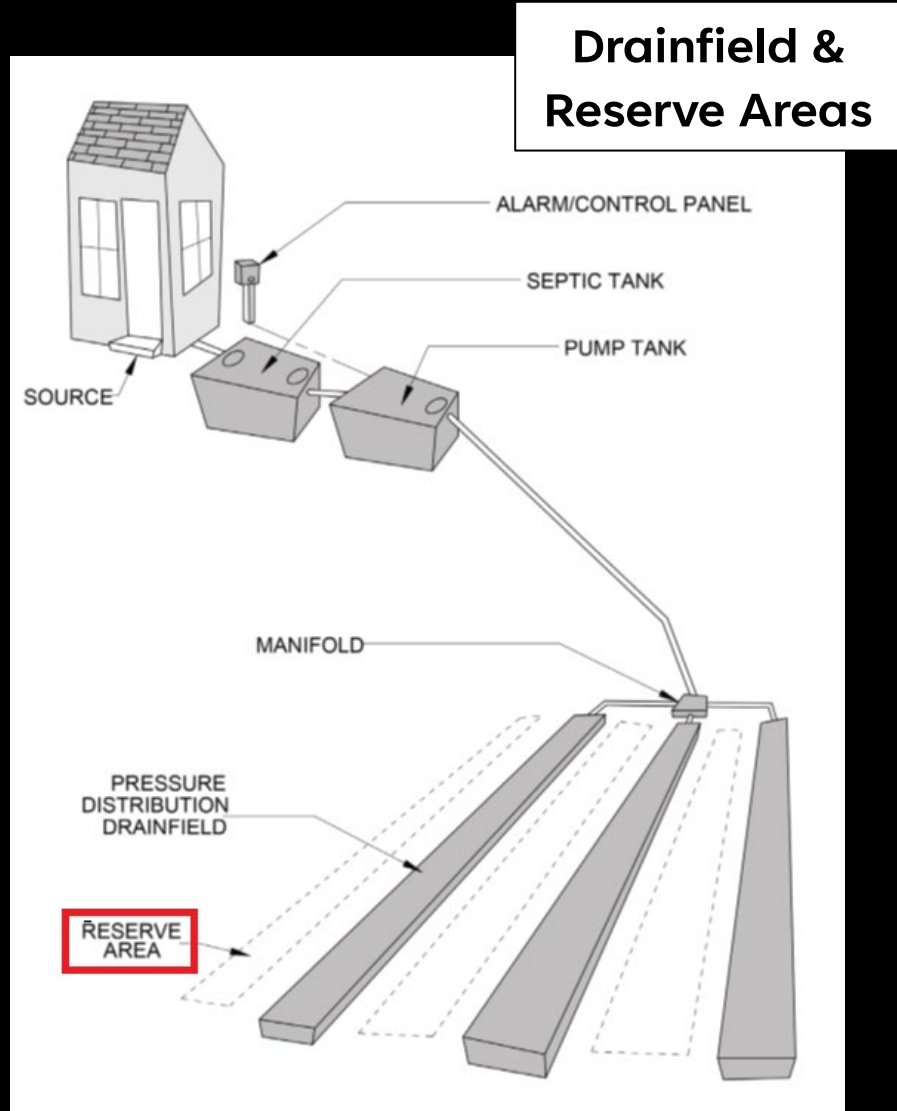
Distribution Box

Inspection checks for leaks or malfunctions in the septic system components; examine the scum and sludge layers

With a riser, people don't have to dig holes every time inspection or pumping is needed.



**Pre-treatment
(if applicable)**



**Drainfield &
Reserve Areas**

Maintenance Frequency Requirements

SYSTEM	MINIMUM FREQUENCY OF INSPECTIONS
Gravity System	Every 1 year
Pressure Distribution System	Every year
Sand-Filter System	Every year
Mound System	Every year
Glendon Biofilter® System	Every 6 months
Subsurface Drip System	Every 6 months
Aerobic Treatment Unit System	Every 6 months

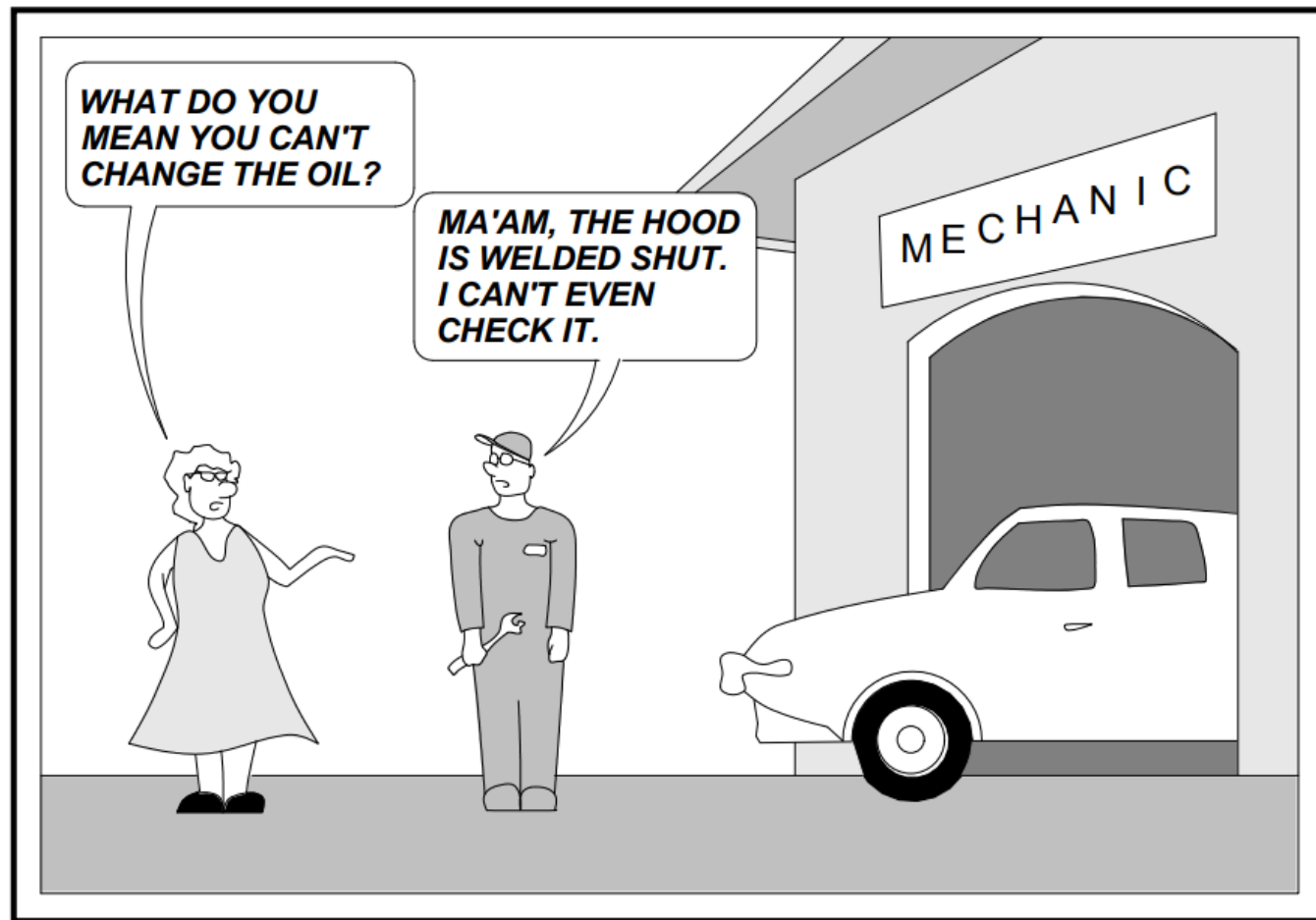
Depending on the type of your septic system, the frequency of inspection varies.

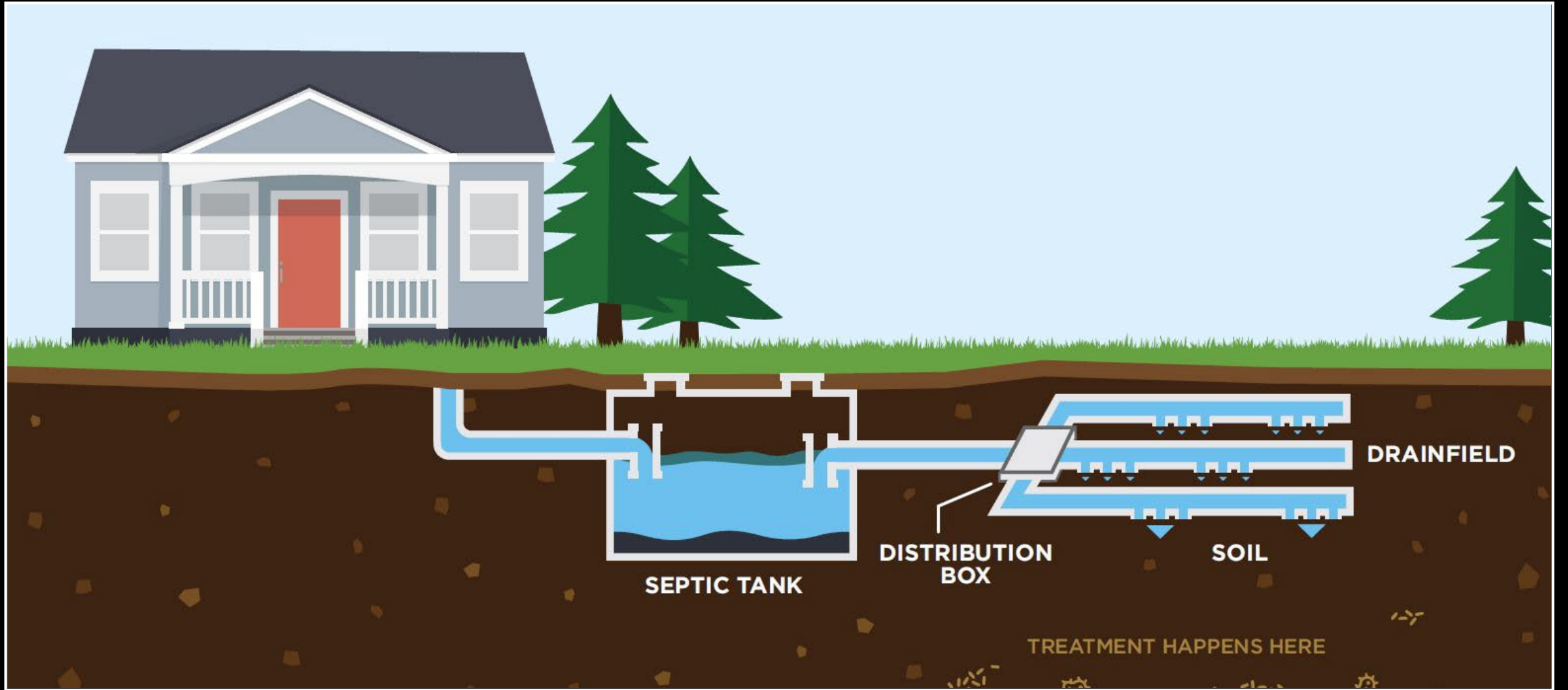
Septic System Pumping

- Frequency of pumping varies with water usage compared to the designed amount.
- Pumping is important as scum and sludge should be emptied and not overflowing, causing wastewater present outside.



Riser Installation





How do I find my facility's septic system record?

How can I find out what type of system I own?

1. Click “Search septic system as-built drawing records”

HOME / PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY / ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH / ON-SITE SEWAGE/SEPTIC SYSTEMS

On-site sewage/septic system program

The Public Health – Seattle & King County On-site Sewage/Septic System Program helps make sure that over 85,000 sewage/septic systems in Seattle are safe. Sewage/septic systems treat wastewater when homes and buildings are not connected to public sewer systems. We also provide permitting and educational services for owners of septic systems, and certifications for some septic professionals.

Resources for homeowners and residents

Find sewage/septic information for homeowners and residents.

Resources for On-site Sewage/Septic system professionals

Professionals need Certificates of Competency to work on and maintain septic systems. Learn more about becoming certified or renewing your certification.

Resources for real estate professionals

Find sewage/septic information pertaining to real estate.

Search on-site sewage/septic system records

The online database has King County’s official records. You can also find the record drawing search utility, King County iMap, and other resources.

2. Click on kingcounty.gov/SepticRecords

Search on-site sewage/septic system records

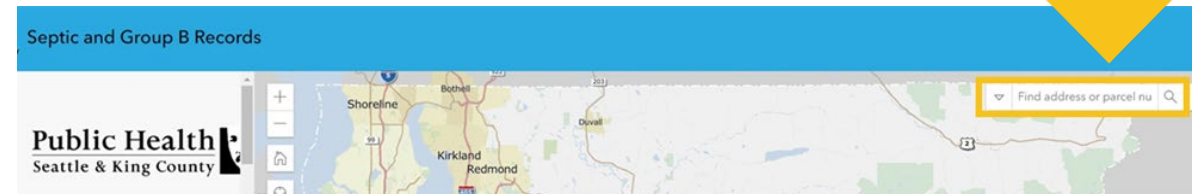
An online search tool to look up records for on-site sewage/septic systems. Records include site designs, historic inspection reports, and as-built record drawings.

Statewide OSS rule revision process | The Washington State Board of Health is revising the state rule, including how to comment, on the state Department of Health website.

Search for your septic records using this new tool: kingcounty.gov/SepticRecords

3. Write Address or Parcel Number in the search bar.

Septic and Group B Records



Public Health
Seattle & King County

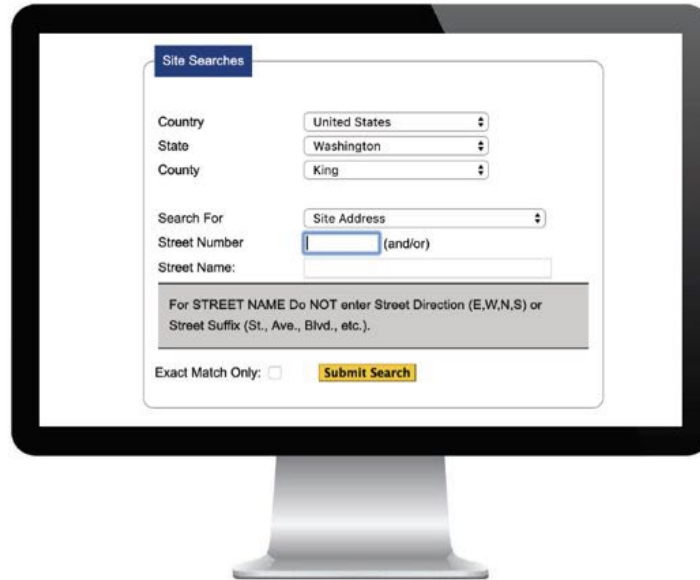
Shoreline Bothell Duvall Kirkland Redmond

Find address or parcel number

How can I search for previous inspection records?

SEARCHING FOR REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTIONS:

- 1 Go to www.onlinerme.com/contractorsearchproperty.aspx.
- 2 Type in your address or tax ID (parcel number).



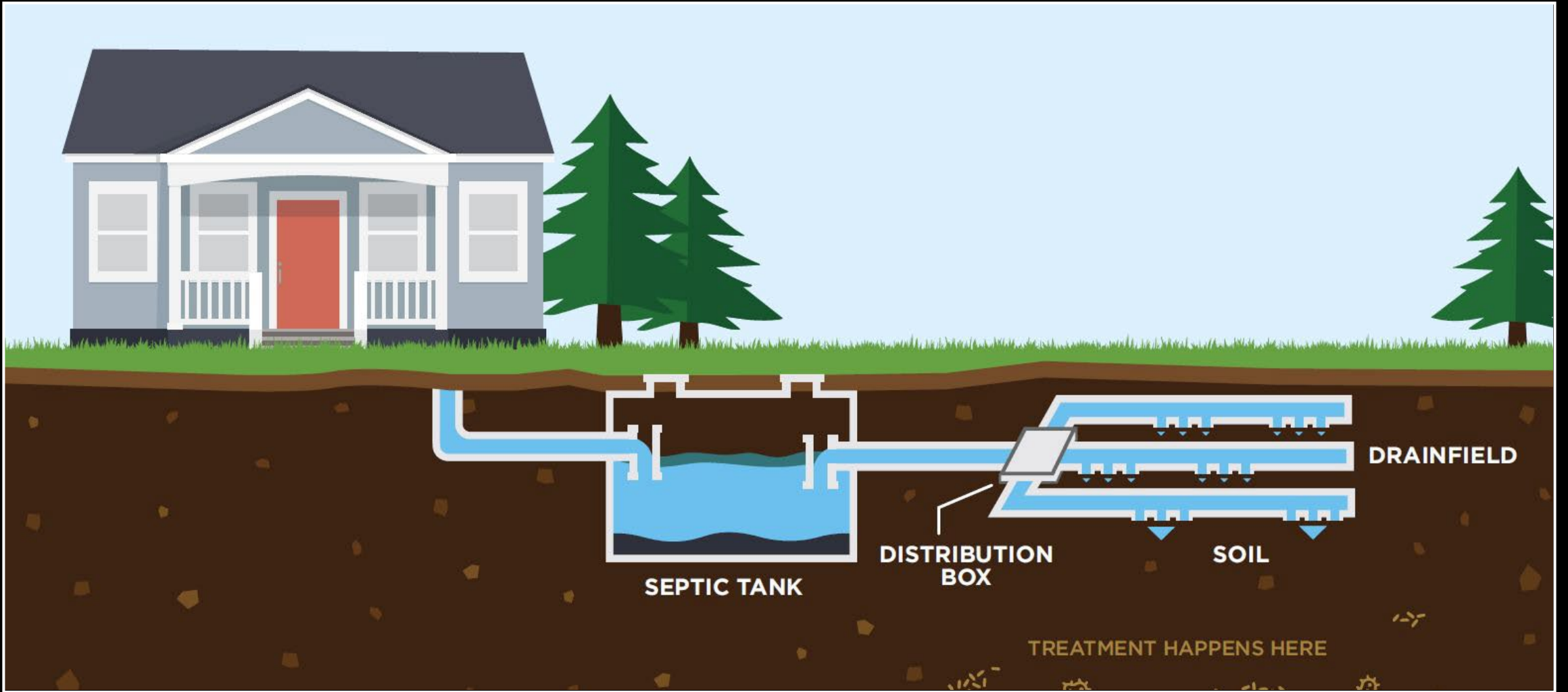
The screenshot shows a search form titled 'Site Searches'. It includes dropdown menus for Country (United States), State (Washington), and County (King). There are input fields for 'Street Number' and 'Street Name'. A note below the fields states: 'For STREET NAME Do NOT enter Street Direction (E,W,N,S) or Street Suffix (St., Ave., Blvd., etc.)'. At the bottom, there is an 'Exact Match Only' checkbox and a 'Submit Search' button.

- 3 Click on 'Service History' to see pumping and inspection reports, or click 'Application History' to review previous Time of Sale Inspection Reports.



Example of an as-built drawing





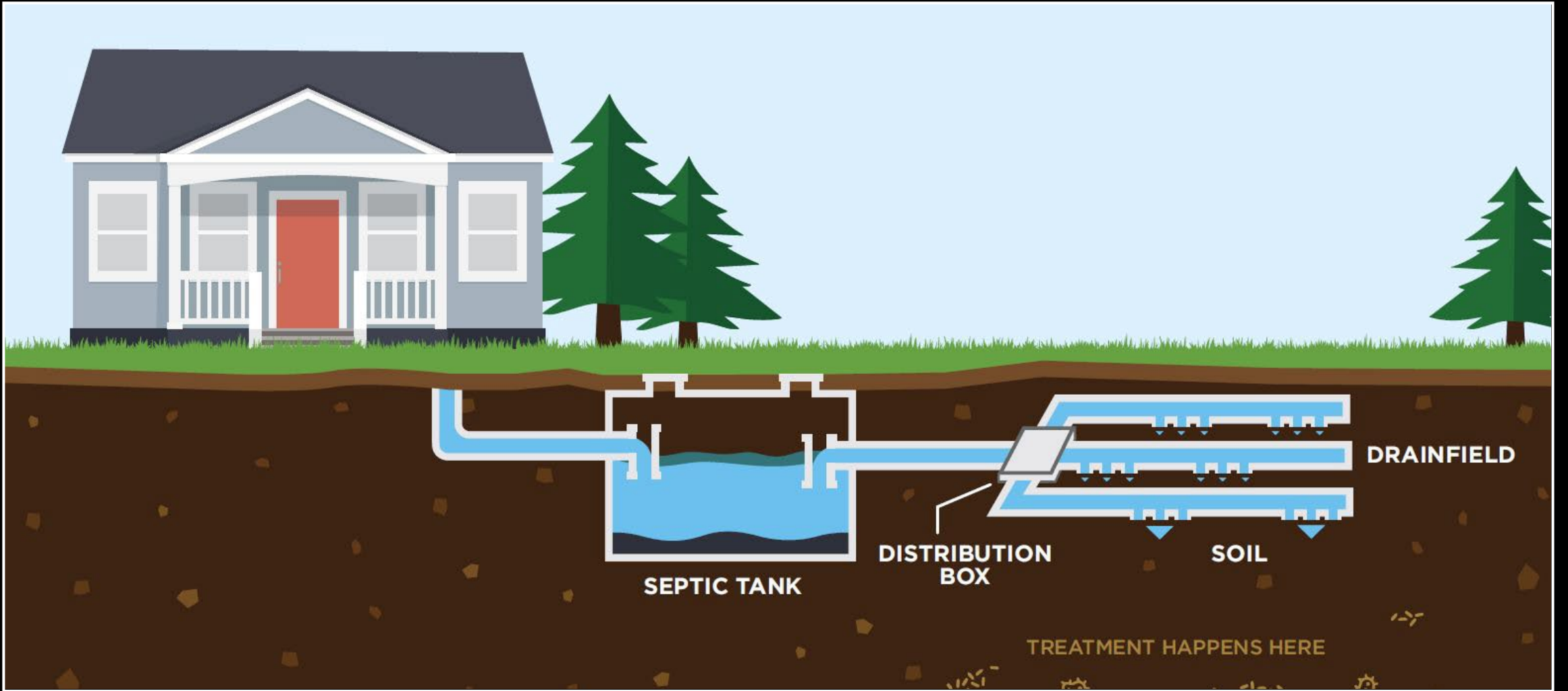
Regulations to know about septic system maintenance

Your septic system should be inspected at least annually

- Septic systems serving foodservice facilities must have the systems inspected **ANNUALLY** per local and state codes (King County Board of Health Title 13.60.010 E; Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Chapter 246-272A-0275).
- Some complex septic systems require **inspection 2 times per year**.
- Inspection reports for foodservice facilities will be checked regularly, letters sent to foodservice facilities / property owners after six months, then quarterly.
- After a considerable timeline for voluntary compliance, enforcement of inspection non-compliance will occur through the Notice and Order process (separate from permit renewals).

After inspection, pumping—report submitted for review

- Once certified OSS maintainers complete the work, **report is submitted for Public Health's review.**
- **If sewage is reported surfacing on the ground or backing up, a complaint investigation will be initiated.** If confirmed, the foodservice facility, and Food and Facilities inspector will be notified. The foodservice facility must cease operating until the surfacing sewage / backup is abated and the Food and Facilities inspector approves re-opening or conditional re-opening.
- **The Notice and Order process** will be followed until the septic system is repaired or replaced.
- **Deficiencies noted on the inspection report should be addressed** to ensure the proper operation and longevity of the septic system. If there is a critical deficiency that will lead to failure of the septic system, a letter will be sent to the septic system operator and / or foodservice establishment with a reasonable timeframe for correction.
- Questions? Contact Doug Jones at (206) 477-8065 or doug.jones@kingcounty.gov



Financial Assistance

Additional Financial Assistance

- Craft-3
- Habitat for Humanity Home Repair Program
- King County Repair Grant Programs
- King County Housing Repair Program

Find more information at
www.kingcounty.gov/oss.



Septic Financial Assistance Programs

North Colvos Passage
Poverty Bay Shellfish Protection
District
2021-2022

Call 206-455-8050 for help
finding the best financial
assistance for you!

If you need financial assistance for:

Maintenance (focus areas only)

Like pumping, annual inspection, or riser installation, see

- *Rebates*

Minor Repairs (focus areas only)

Like replacing a tank, pump or distribution box, see

- *Repair Grant Program*

Septic Replacement or Repair, see

- *Craft3 Clean Water Loan Program*
- *Habitat for Humanity Home Repair Program*
- *King County Housing Repair Program*

Sewer Connection with a Failing Septic System, see

- *Craft3 Clean Water Loan Program*
- *King County Housing Repair Program*

Public Health 
Seattle & King County

Environmental Health Services

14350 SE Eastgate Way

Bellevue, WA 98007

206-455-8050

www.kingcounty.gov/oss

Questions?





Thank you!

Public Health—Seattle and King County
On-site Sewage System

For questions, contact Doug Jones at
(206) 477-8065
doug.jones@kingcounty.gov