



LEWIS COUNTY CONVENTIONAL (GRAVITY) SEPTIC SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

Lewis County Public Health and Social Services
 Environmental Health Division
 2025 Kresky Avenue
 Chehalis, WA 98532

GENERAL GUIDANCE

Schedule 40 (or equivalent) pipe must be used between the house and septic tank. Lines crossing under driveways and roads must be double sleeved and packed in sand. Drain line construction will utilize approved smooth wall, perforated plastic pipe.

The septic tank must be water tight. The tank shall be set so that the inlet hole (closest to the top of the tank) receives schedule 40 (or equivalent) pipe from the residence. Fiberglass, Polyurethane, or other non-concrete tanks must be approved by the Washington State Department of Health and installed per the manufacturer's recommendations. Septic tanks shall be level and utilize inlet baffles with an effluent filter or baffle placed on the outlet line to the drainfield.

Swept tees are not allowed

All state and local set-back requirements must be recognized. New system installation require water availability conditions be met prior to beginning the installation.

DRAINFIELD

Utilization of gravelless chamber technologies and appropriate drainfield area reductions shall be approved only by the local Health official.

A minimum of 2 lines per drainfield shall exist. Systems that require more than 2 lines must use a distribution box or other approved methods of distribution. The maximum length of individual drainfield lines is not to exceed 100'.

All drainlines in the drainfield are required to be of equal length.

Drainfield lines shall be a minimum of 7.5' from center-to-center, measuring from the center of each drain line.

All trenches must be 18"-36" wide; trenches must be of equal width.

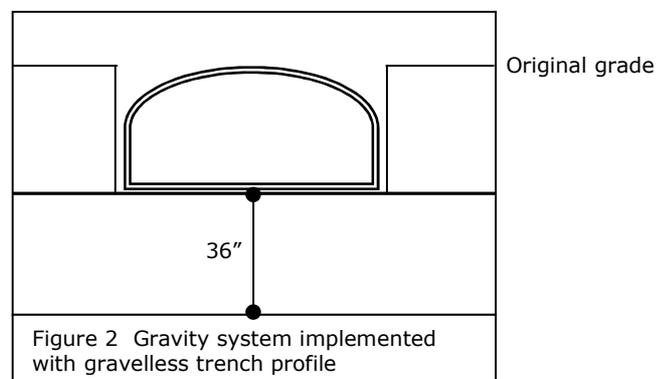
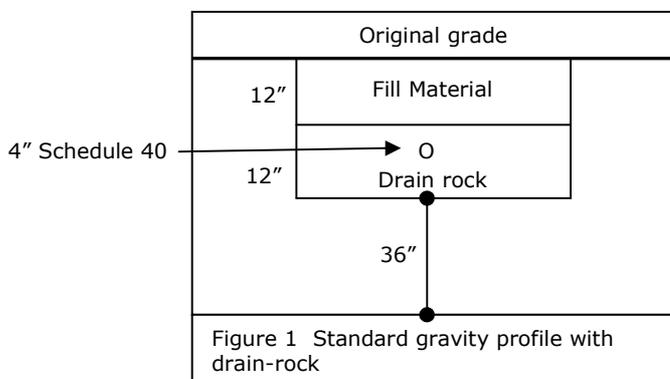
The ends of drainlines must be capped and glued.

The perforated holes in the drain lines must be placed with holes in the 4 and 8 o'clock position.

The maximum trench depth listed on the permit must not be exceeded on any part of the system for any reason.

Gravel in the trench/bed shall be covered with geo-textile prior to covering.

The grade of drainfield lines should be level.



Drainlines shall be installed on contour.

Monitoring ports should be included on every drainline within 10' from the terminus.

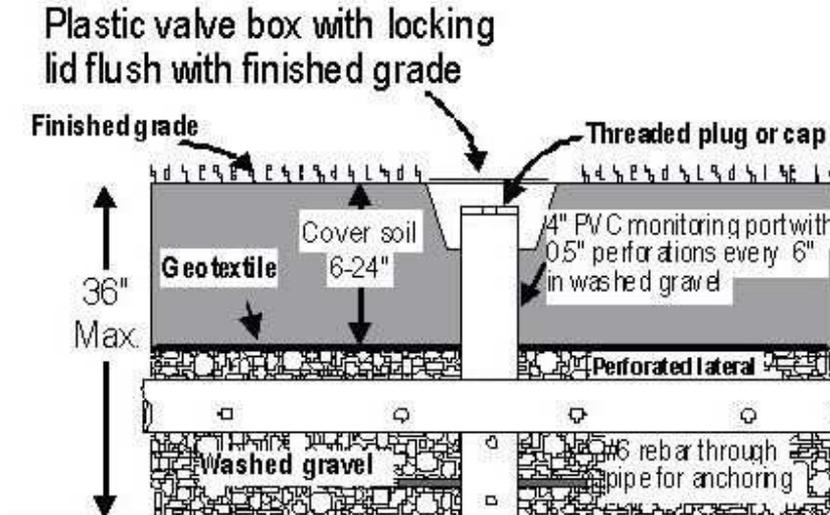


Figure 3 Monitoring port detail
(source: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/ww/pubs-ww-rsg.htm>)

A minimum of 6" of clean gravel must be located beneath the drainfield pipe. A minimum of 2" of clean gravel will be placed over the drainfield pipe. Gravel must be washed drainrock 1/2"-2-1/2" diameter. Dirty rock will be rejected for use of installation.

DISTRIBUTION BOX

There should be a minimum of 5' of tight line between the septic tank and the distribution box or tee. There should also be a minimum of 5' of tight line between the distribution box/tee and the beginning of the individual drain line.

The tee/distribution box must be level and encased in cement with a cement platform. The distribution box should be accessible at grade or a maximum of 6" below grade with a marker.

The exit port of the distribution box opposite the entry port shall not be utilized unless an internal baffle is utilized (Figure 4).

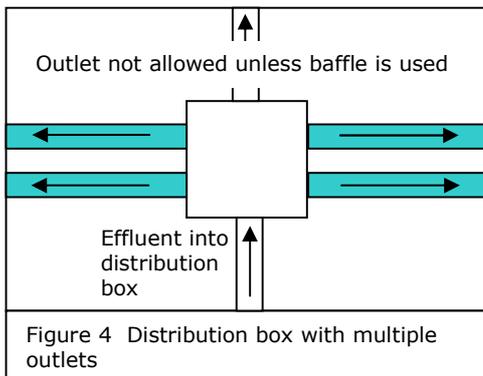


Figure 4 Distribution box with multiple outlets

POST INSTALLATION

Septic tanks shall include risers to grade.

The County Health Department must be contacted to schedule a final inspection prior to backfilling the system.

Upon final approval by the County Health Department, a track vehicle or other low-impact vehicle shall be used to cover the system (ground pressure not to exceed 7 P.S.I.).

Fill materials used for covering drainfield components should have sufficient porosity to allow for aerobic exchange. Cover material should not consist of clayey soils without sufficient sand content.