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CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

NEWS RELEASE

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Board of Health revises fee structure for septic systems

Vancouver, WA— The Board of County Commissioners, in their role as the local Board of Health, has approved a revised fee structure for all septic system owners, effective January 2012.

An annual \$16.50 fee will replace the current fees of \$20 when a system is inspected and 6 cent-per-gallon when tanks are pumped.

“For most septic system owners, this flat fee should represent a cost savings or be cost-neutral,” said Marni Storey, Public Health deputy director. “Having all septic system owners pay the same amount ensures they share the cost of the program. This levels the playing field.”

The revised fee structure completes the process of updating all environmental public health fees associated with the public health budget approved for 2011-2012. The new approach will free private inspectors and pumpers from the responsibility of collecting county fees. The county will handle the collections in connection with property tax bills, starting in Spring 2012.

The On-Site Septic System Operations and Maintenance program works with property owners to be sure septic systems meet state requirements while protecting drinking water, community health and property. It includes technical guidance for those who need repairs or have questions. The staff responds to complaints and deficiency reports, while auditing licensed inspectors and pumpers to ensure quality work.

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