



SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 20-13

RESOLUTION SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF EXPIRATION DATE OF APPROVED ONSITE SEPTIC APPLICATIONS

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public emergency for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) beginning on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25, *Stay Home, Stay Healthy*, which requires citizens to remain in their homes, except to conduct essential business; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's *Stay Home, Stay Healthy* order required closure of all non-essential businesses; and

WHEREAS, except in limited circumstances, construction is not considered essential; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020, Governor Inslee issued a memorandum as an addendum to Proclamation 20-25 that provided for a limited restart of construction activities on projects that existed on or before March 23, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2020, Governor Inslee announced a four-phase approach to re-opening Washington; and

WHEREAS, each phase will take a minimum of three weeks; and

WHEREAS, activities related to new construction projects will be permitted in Phase 2 of the Governor's plan; and

WHEREAS, under Snohomish Health District Code 5.60.010, approved applications for new onsite septic systems are valid for two years and then expire; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition on construction has created significant installation delays for applicants who possess approved onsite septic applications; and

WHEREAS, construction is vital to the economy in Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, requiring renewal or re-application for approved onsite septic systems would create unnecessary construction delays and impose a hardship on applicants; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County and some cities are adopting emergency ordinances suspending their expiration time periods for applications, approvals and permits, which automatically extends Snohomish Health District onsite sewage disposal systems permit installation time periods to match the authorizing jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish Health District onsite sewage disposal systems design application is currently valid for two years from the date of issuance; however, it is not automatically altered by extensions granted by authorizing jurisdictions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Snohomish Health District Board of Health hereby automatically extends for 180 days (six calendar months) all onsite sewage design applications under Snohomish Health District Code Section 5.06.010 for onsite sewage disposal systems valid on March 4, 2020, the date of the declaration of emergency, and expiring prior to the lifting of the emergency declaration.

ADOPTED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May.

ATTEST:

---

Stephanie Wright, Chair  
Board of Health

---

Shawn Frederick, MBA  
Administrative Officer