

# Onsite Sewage System Home Owner Installer Examination

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*- Circle the best answer -*

## Permits, Inspections and As Builts/Record Drawings

1. Which Washington Administrative Code (WAC) requires residences and businesses' to be permitted by the local health jurisdiction before installing an onsite sewage system?
  - a) WAC 246-215
  - b) WAC 173-351
  - c) WAC 246-272A
  - d) WAC 246-260
  
2. An Asotin County Health District onsite sewage system permit is **void after**:
  - a) 1 year
  - b) 2 years
  - c) 3 years
  - d) 7 years
  
3. Washington Administrative Code requires which inspection to be done by Asotin County Health District before a septic system can be covered?
  - a) Site Evaluation
  - b) Final Construction
  - c) Septic Tank Pump
  - d) System Evaluation
  
4. An onsite sewage system's installer must submit an As Built/Record Drawing of the final system to the Asotin County Health District:
  - a. Done in color
  - b. After completing the Onsite Sewage System
  - c. By the end of the year

5. As-Builts/Record Drawings must include:
- a) Measurements and directions within  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$  ft, to allow easy locating of the OSS components and potential hazards (electrical wires, water lines, gas lines, etc).
  - b) Location and dimensions of the reserve area with a list of materials used in the current system.
  - c) When used, initial settings of electrical components or devices used in the systems operation with the manufacturers manual.
  - d) All of the above.

### QUESTIONS ABOUT SEPTIC TANKS

6. The minimum distance between the **building foundation** and a **septic tank** is:
- a. 2 feet
  - b. 5 feet
  - c. 10 feet
  - d. 15 feet
6. In a “**single tank system**”, septic tanks are required to have:
- a. 1 compartment
  - b. 2 compartments
  - c. 3 compartments
  - d. none of the above
7. The **minimum septic tank size** required for a **4 bedroom** house is:
- a. 1,000 gallons
  - b. 1,250 gallons
  - c. 1,500 gallons
  - d. none of the above

8. The **minimum septic tank size** required for a **5 bedroom** house is:
- a. 1,000 gallons
  - b. 1,250 gallons
  - c. 1,500 gallons
  - d. none of the above
9. **True or False: Risers** are required on all septic tanks to allow clean out & inspection access.
- a. True
  - b. False

### QUESTIONS SEPTIC TANK (CONT.)

10. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Septic Tank Additives are:
- a. Highly recommended
  - b. Not recommended
  - c. Can adversely affect biological decomposition processes in the system
  - d. Both b & c

### QUESTIONS ABOUT DRAINFIELDS

11. The minimum distance between the **building foundation** and the **drainfield** is:
- a. 2 feet
  - b. 5 feet
  - c. 10 feet
  - d. 15 feet
12. What is the minimum vertical separation between the bottom of a drainfield trench and a restrictive layer:
- a. 18 inches
  - b. 24 inches
  - c. 36 inches
  - d. 48 inches

13. The minimum distance between a **drainfield** and a **water pipe** under pressure is:
- a. 5 feet
  - b. 10 feet
  - c. 15 feet
  - d. 20 feet

14. The minimum distance between a **drainfield** and a **well** is:
- a. 50 feet
  - b. 75 feet
  - c. 100 feet
  - d. 150 feet

#### **QUESTIONS ABOUT DRAINFIELDS (CONT.)**

15. The **bottom of a drainfield trench** and the **drainfield pipe (or graveless chamber)** are required to be installed:
- a. Level (1 inch per 25 ft. max)
  - b. at a 4 % slope
  - c. 4 inches of drop per 100 feet of length
  - d. Both a and c
16. For “Gravity Distribution”, the minimum depth of **permeable soil** required beneath the bottom of a drainfield trench is:
- a. 1 foot
  - b. 2 feet
  - c. 3 feet
  - d. 5 feet
17. The **replacement area** for a drainfield is equal to how much of the area of the original drainfield?
- a. 25 %
  - b. 50 %
  - c. 75 %
  - d. 100 %

## QUESTIONS ABOUT DRAINFIELDS (CONT.)

18. The maximum **width** of a drainfield trench is:
- a. 1 foot
  - b. 2 feet
  - c. 3 feet
  - d. 4 feet
19. The maximum **length** of a “non-pressure distribution” drainfield trench, from the connection of the solid sewage distribution pipe is:
- a. 25 feet
  - b. 50 feet
  - c. 75 feet
  - d. 100 feet
20. Drainfield pipe shall be installed **on**:
- a. 6 ft. centers
  - b. 9 ft. centers
  - c. 3 ft. centers
  - b. all of the above
21. Which of the following is the correct horizontal setback from the edge of a drainfield to a building foundation:
- a. 5 feet
  - b. 10 feet
  - c. 15 feet
  - d. 20 feet

22. A drainfield cannot be installed on land that has which one of the following **slopes**?

- a. 15 %
- b. 25 %
- c. 35 %
- d. 45 %

### QUESTIONS ABOUT DRAINFIELDS (CONT.)

23. The sidewall of a drainfield below the invert of drainfield pipe may be located **in**:

- a. caliche
- b. original, undisturbed soil
- c. fill dirt
- d. both b & c

24. When gravel is used in a drainfield, how much gravel is required **below** the drainfield pipe?

- a. 6 inches
- b. 1 foot
- c. 2 feet
- d. 3 feet

25. When gravel is used in a drainfield, what is the **total** minimum depth of the gravel required in the drainfield trench?

- a. 12 inches
- b. 18 inches
- c. 24 inches
- d. 36 inches

27. When gravel is used in a drainfield, what is required to **cover** the top of the gravel?

- a. tar paper
- b. plastic
- c. geotextile fabric
- d. burlap

28. Minimum **size** allowed for drainfield gravel is:
- a.  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch
  - b. 1 inch
  - c.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch
  - d. none of the above
29. Minimum **distance** from a “downgrade” cut (1:1 slope) that is more than 5 feet deep, to a drainfield is:
- a. 10 feet
  - b. 25 feet
  - c. 50 feet
  - d. none of the above

### QUESTIONS ABOUT OSS INSTALLERS

30. The OSS installer **must**:
- a. Follow the approved design
  - b. Have approved design in possession during installation
  - c. Be on site at all times during the excavation and construction of the OSS
  - d. All the above
31. Can an OSS installer also **design** Septic systems ?
- a. Yes, but only in Asotin County
  - b. Only if he is also licensed with the WA Department of Licensing as a Designer.
  - c. Only if he is also a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in accordance with RCW 18.43
  - d. Both b & c
32. The minimum amount of cover placed over a drain field is:
- a. 6”
  - b. 12”
  - c. 18”

- d. 24"
33. The use of a baffle at the outlet in a tank is to keep:
- a. Gas from entering the tank from the drain field
  - b. Water from saturating the absorption field
  - c. The effluent flowing quickly into the drain field
  - d. Lighter solids (scum) from leaving the septic tank and clogging the absorption field
34. To abandon a septic tank, cesspool or other sewage container:
- e. Pump the tank
  - f. Destroy the lid
  - g. Crush the tank and fill the void
  - h. All of the above
35. To help prevent settling, septic components - including tanks, distribution boxes and drainfields should be installed:
- i. As deep as possible
  - j. As shallow as possible
  - k. In undisturbed natural soil
  - l. On a gravel bed
36. Which of the following is true about distribution boxes?
- a. The box does not have to be level because it has more than one outlet to feed the absorption bed
  - b. The box must set in undisturbed soil to avoid settling of the box causing unequal distribution
  - c. The box can be installed in fresh fill
  - d. The box should be placed as close to the septic tank as possible
37. To designate the replacement area in between drainfield legs, the minimum horizontal distance between legs must be:
- a. 10' on center
  - b. 15' on center



- c. 12' side wall to sidewall
- d. B & C

**38** Which of the following is acceptable over the top of a drain field?

- e. Parking cars
- f. Planting a lawn
- g. Paving over with concrete to protect the drain field
- h. Power lines or other utilities

**39** In a gravity fed septic system, the infiltrative surface should \_\_\_\_\_ from the beginning of the infiltrative surface to the end.

- m. Maintain elevation
- n. Decrease in elevation
- o. Increase in elevation
- p. Doesn't matter

**40.** True or False: A permit is required for the replacement, addition, or modifications of baffles, sewage tank lids, and risers.

- a. True
- b. False