

Sewerage Systems

Information for Property Owners Questions and Answers

➤ **Who is allowed to construct, alter or repair a sewerage system?**

According to the *Sewerage System Regulation (SSR)* only an Authorized Person (AP) can design, install, repair, maintain and/or inspect a sewerage system.

An Authorized Person is a Professional Engineer or a Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP).

➤ **How can I find an Authorized Person?**

- Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioners - contact the Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC at (604) 585-2788 or visit their web site at: <http://owrp.asttbc.org/rowp-finder/>.
- Professional Engineer - contact Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists by going to their web site at: <http://www.apeg.bc.ca/>.



➤ **I need a new sewerage system. How does the process work?**

You will need to hire an Authorized Person, who will visit your property and make an assessment. The Authorized Person will perform soil tests and identify the factors that will affect the location and the construction of a sewerage system. When this is done, the Authorized Person will design the appropriate type of sewerage system and submit all the necessary paper work (Record of Sewerage System form filing - RSS) to the Health Authority.

A \$200 non-refundable administration fee, payable to Fraser Health Authority must accompany the filing information.

➤ **Does the Authorized Person need to submit a filing for a repair?**

This depends on the components being repaired or replaced. You will still need to hire an Authorized Person to do the work. The Standard Practice Manual provides the Authorized Person instructions on when to file documents with the Health Authority. In all cases the Authorized Person must ensure that the repair does not cause or contribute to a health hazard. As part of the repair the Authorized Person should assess and document all components of the sewerage system and confirm the daily design flow.

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➤ **Is there an expiry date on the Record of Sewerage System filing?**

Yes, all construction (this would apply to repairs and alternations as well) need to be completed within two years from the date stamped on the Record of Sewerage System by Fraser Health.

➤ **What happens once the sewerage system has been constructed, repaired or altered?**

The Authorized Person is required to submit a Letter of Certification (LOC) to the Health Authority within 30 days of completing the construction.

The Authorized Person must provide you with the following documentation:

- A copy of the sewerage system plans and specifications submitted to the Health Authority.
- A maintenance plan for your system.
- A copy of the Letter of Certification submitted to the Health Authority.



➤ **Do I require a Letter of Certification before I can use my sewerage system?**

Yes, according to the *Sewerage System Regulation* it is an offence if an owner operates a sewerage system for which no Letter of Certification has been filed with the Health Authority.

➤ **Will my sewerage system require regular maintenance?**

Yes, an owner is required, by the regulation, to maintain the sewerage system installed on the property in accordance with the maintenance plan filed by the Authorized Person.

The Homeowner will also need to keep a record of all maintenance carried out on the system.

Any changes to the system as a result of a repair or alternation should be detailed in the revised maintenance plan.

For More Information

To view the *Sewerage System Regulation*, the Standard Practice Manual and other publications go to the Ministry of Health’s website at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/sewage/onsite-sewage-systems>.

To speak to an Environmental Health Officer, please call
Population Public Health Call Centre at:

604-587-3936

and request to be connected to the Drinking Water and Land Program.

www.fraserhealth.ca/healthprotection