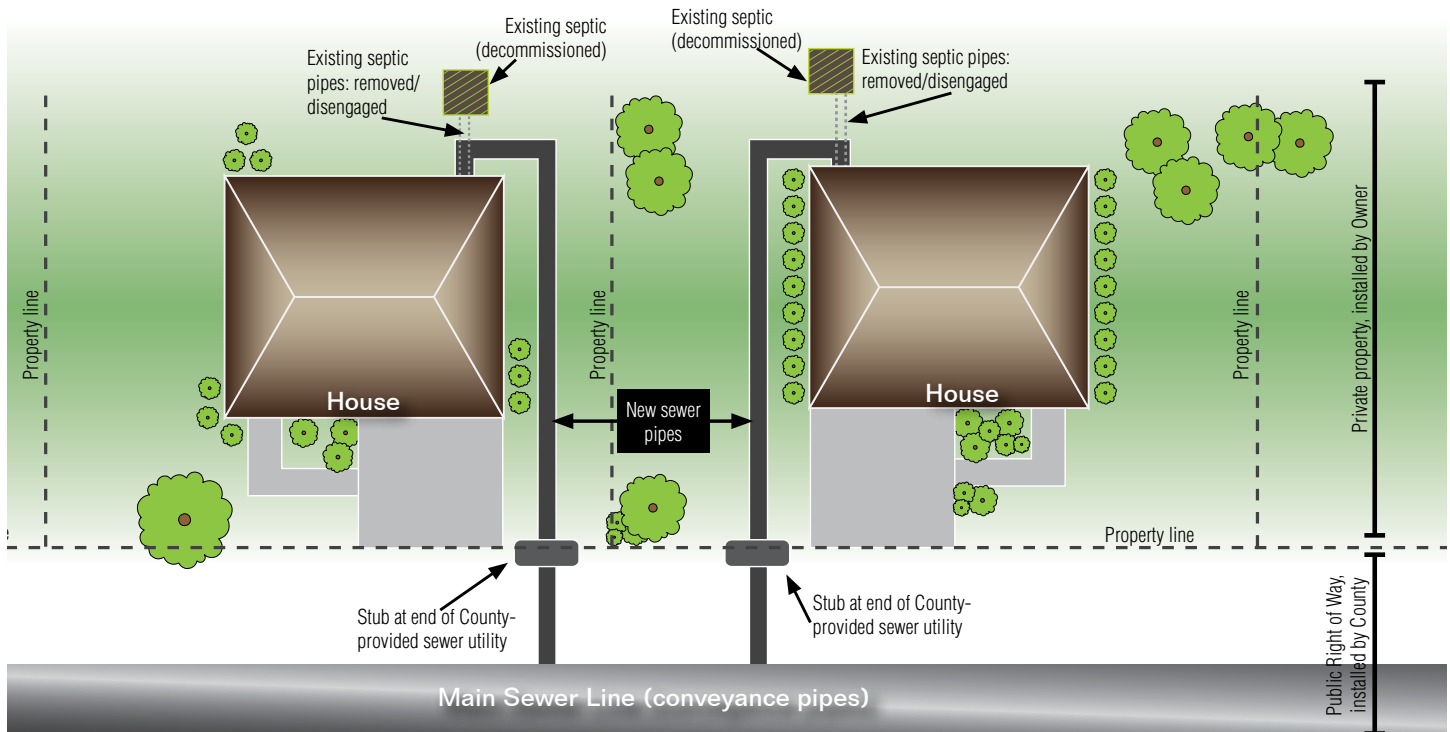


Connecting to the new Belfair Wastewater Facilities

June 2009



Where will your sewer connection be?

All properties required to hook into the system will have a "stub" at their parcel line to build into. Each location of a stub is property-dependent. Generally speaking, locations were selected based upon location of nearby underground utilities, driveways, etc. Property owners will need to build side sewers from their building to the stub at their property line.

Who needs to connect to the sewer system?

Property owners within 500 feet of the proposed sewer alignment will be required to hook into the system as it becomes available (*per Mason County Ordinance 91-07*). If tying into the sewer system is applicable to your property, you should have received a letter with details about your hookup. If you have questions, please call the project hotline.



Property owners will need to build side sewers from their building to property lines, where the county utility will provide one stub (shown here), or pipe connection, per parcel.

Property owners will be able to contract and build their own side sewers – contracting through licensed businesses and building to codes. A permit and inspection will be required by Mason County.

Cost of hooking into the system

	Fee	Preliminary Estimated Cost	Payable To
Property Owner Hookup Costs	Connection fee to the public sewer per equivalent residential unit (ERU)	\$3,200 - \$5,000 per ERU	Mason County Utilities and Waste Management
	Re-plumb sewer to connect to the main system and disconnect from septic tank – “building a side sewer”	\$3,000 (average) These individual costs are property-dependent and will vary. Cost is dependent upon property's topography, distance from building to property line, and the contractor used for this construction.	Individually-chosen contractor
Rate-Payer Ongoing Costs	Rate-Payer Ongoing Costs per equivalent residential unit (ERU)	\$86 - \$100 per ERU	Mason County Utilities and Waste Management

Timeline

Deadlines for hookup to the sewer have not yet been established, however, the system is slated to begin to come online in spring 2011. A schedule will be established so that property owners know the trajectory of hookup, septic system decommissioning, and sewer utility start-up.

Equivalent Residential Units

Single family homes are considered to be one “ERU.” Businesses and institutions will be assessed on ERUs based on several factors, including water use

Possible side sewer financing options

Mason County continues to seek possible financing options for those who will be required to hook up to the sewer utility. To date, the following opportunities exist or are being researched:

1. USDA Rural Development loan

- Administered by/applications through USDA Rural Development
- For low to moderate income households (eligible by income)
- Lifetime loan/grant assistance may not exceed \$7,500

To receive a grant/loan:

- Owner must have limited non-retirement assets
- Residence receiving the grant/loan must be owner-occupied
- Grants are made to those property owners 62 and older
- Loans are for those under 62 years of age

2. Possible additional funding:

Community Development Block Grant

- Would be administered by Mason County (if awarded)
- For low-moderate income households (eligible by income)
- Next steps: Mason County applies for grant (fall 2009)

3. Possible group contracting for side sewers (feasibility to be determined by County)

- Possibility for better prices on side sewer construction
- Possible benefit of reduced coordination with contractors, and ease of securing permits.

Contact us

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