

# Skagit County Code 12.05

## **On-site Sewage Code**



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# How We Got Here

- On-site septic regulations start with Washington State Department of Health.
- Washington Administrative Code Chapter 246-272A is the basis for all septic systems in State.
- WADOH began the rule revision process in 2018.
- Adoption by Washington State Board of Health January 10, 2024.

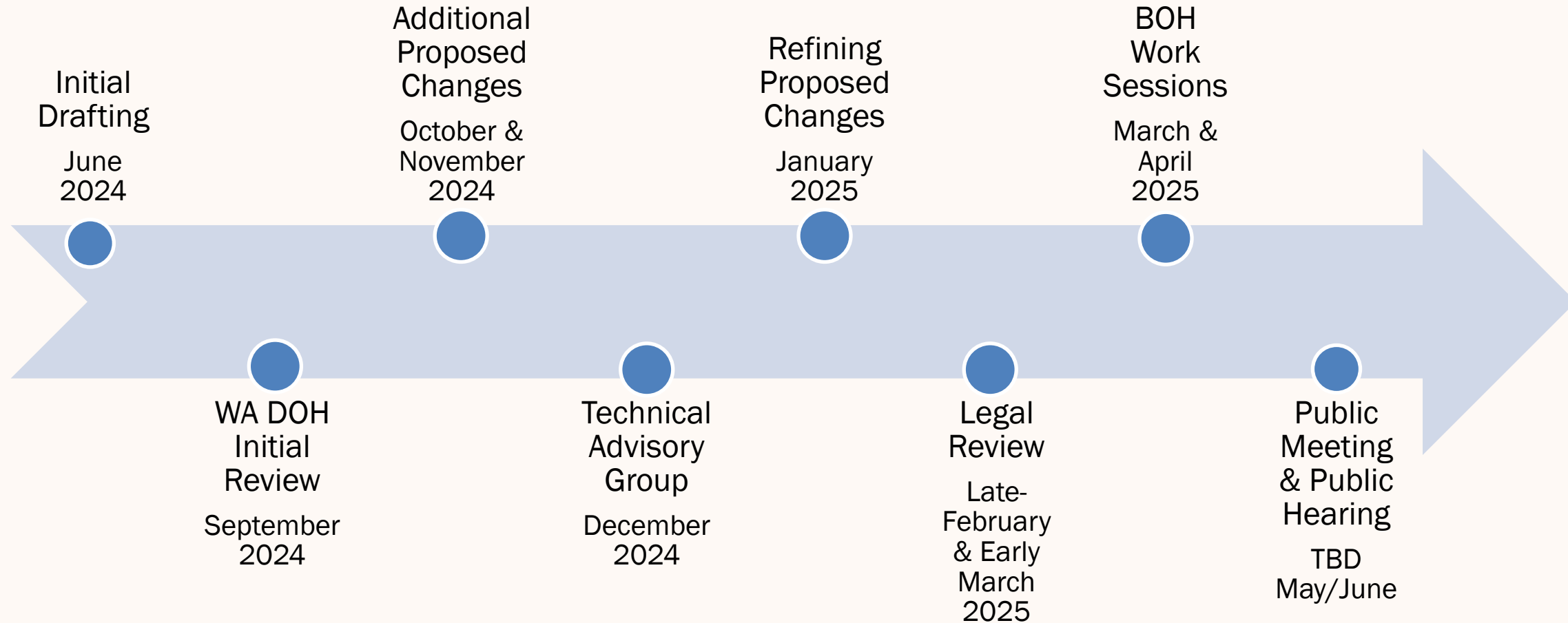


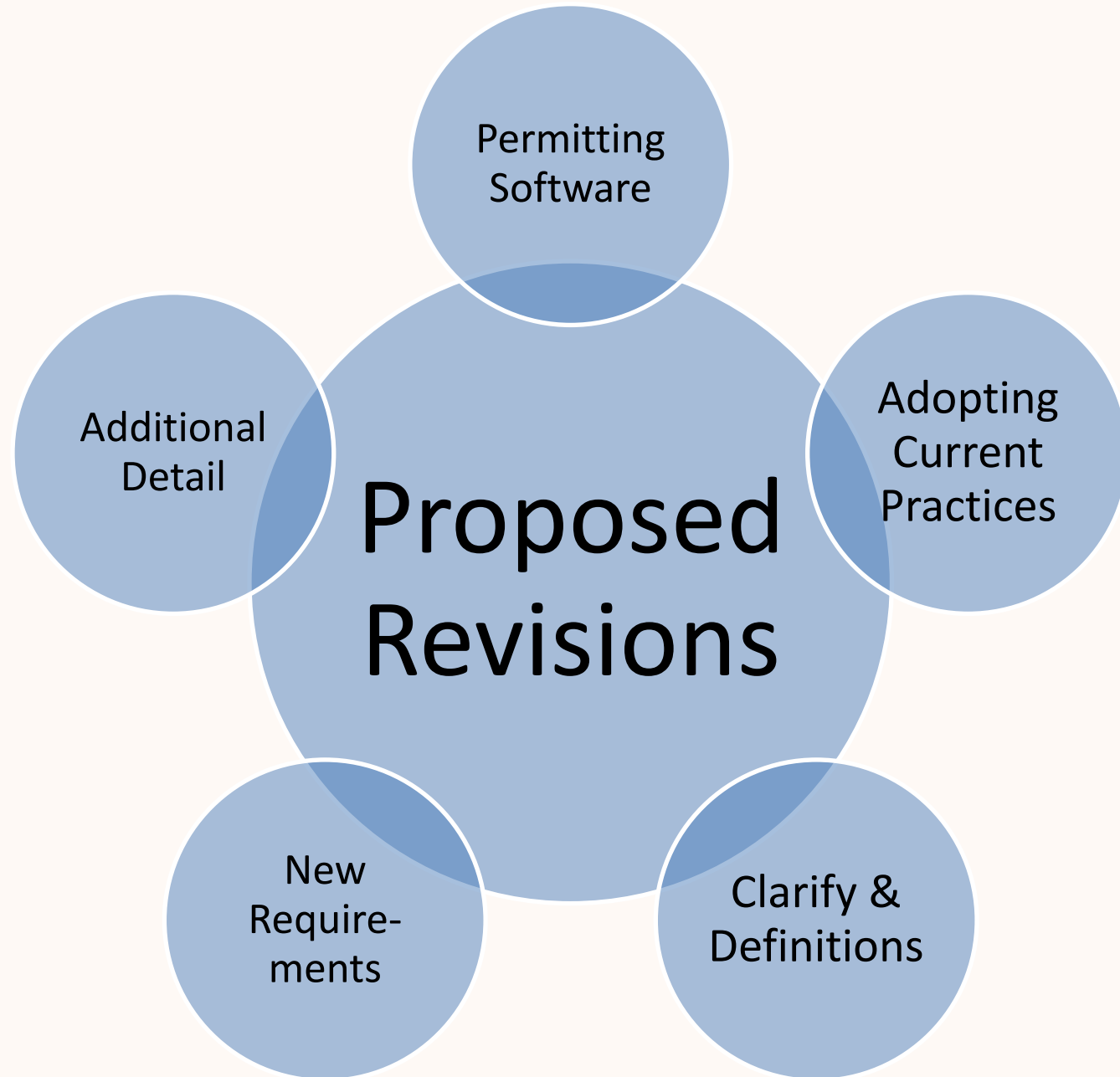
# How We Got Here

- Rule effective dates staggered with most revisions effective April 1, 2025.
- WADOH revising WAC sets in motion all Local Health Jurisdiction reviewing and updating local regulations.
- All LHJ regulations must be as stringent as WAC; regulations cannot be less stringent.



# Timeline





# Permitting Software Related

- Redesign
- Renew
- Revision
- Timeline for paying permit application fees.



# Adoption of Current Practice

- Adopt WADOH's Department Standards and Guidance
- Requirements for Site & Soil Evaluation
- Accept past product specific recorded documents to satisfy current general template
- Installation during wet season



# Adoption of Current Practice

- Homeowner inspection policy developed during COVID-19
- HOI approval is not transferable to new owners.
- Compliance schedule for parcels with multiple OSSs
- Qualified Individuals to complete & submit as-built/record drawings





# Adding Clarity & Definitions

- CEU (continuing education unit)
- Health Officer approved training
- Reiteration of existing WAC, RCW, and Department Standards and Guidance (WADOH DS&G)
- Highest Seasonal Water Table – timeframe & when to expect
- Mixed input septic tank sizing & number



# Proposed New Requirements

- Minimum bedroom design based on sq. ft.
- Create Level 1 & Level 2 Certification for Installers and Operations & Maintenance Specialists
- Holding tank operational permit
- Homeowner installation educational requirement
- Timeline for submitting as-built/record drawings



# Revisions – Additional Detail

- Owner design, install, and routine inspection for conventional gravity systems & clarify no waiver or variance allowed
- Property Transfer Inspections for vacant structures
- Minimum Land Area provision & waivers
- HOI frequency of certified inspection
- Establish timeline for inspection and pumping reports to be submitted countywide



# Upcoming Actions

- Continue work sessions on proposed code
- Staff will revise and incorporate input
- Public meeting(s) will be scheduled to present final draft to BOH and public
- Public comment period
- Public Hearing and potential adoption



## Contact Information:

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