



MASON COUNTY

Public Health & Human Services

September 23, 2025

Washington State Board of Health
PO Box 47990
Olympia, WA 98504-7990

Request for Allowance of Recreational Vehicle(RV) Holding Tanks on Undersized Lots

Dear Board Members,

Under the current On-site Septic(OSS) regulations, WAC 246-272A, recreational vehicle holding tanks are not permitted on lots that do not meet the minimum land area requirement. The minimum land area requirements apply to all septic systems. The public health purpose of the minimum land area requirement is to prevent the operation of OSS at density levels that could negatively impact the groundwater quality of nearby drinking water wells. However, we feel it is inappropriate to apply the minimum land area standard to proposals for RV holding tanks.

Typical septic systems are composed of a treatment tank and a sub-surface soil dispersal component(drainfield) which disposes of the effluent into the soil. RV holding tanks are purely storage. When properly maintained, RV holding tanks do not negatively impact ground and surface water.

We request that you amend WAC 246-272A to allow the construction of RV holding tanks on undersized lots. Our community has many small lots platted prior to the current minimum land area requirements. As we continue to grapple with the ongoing housing crisis, we need to leverage every available avenue for potential housing. This change will continue to protect public health while providing some relief to the housing crisis.

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For any correspondence regarding this proposal, please contact Ian Tracy, Environmental Health Manager, by phone at 360-427-9670 x544 or by e-mail at itracy@masoncountywa.gov.

Respectfully,

MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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