



## **POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING: INTERPRETATION OF BEDROOM AND DAILY FLOW DETERMINATION**

The following standards are to be used when sizing conventional and alternative onsite sewage disposal systems for single family dwellings:

For design purposes, one-hundred fifty (150) gallons per bedroom per day shall be utilized in determining total daily flow for single family dwellings with one (1) through three (3) bedrooms. Single family dwellings with greater than three (3) bedrooms shall use one-hundred twenty (120) gallons per bedroom per day for design purposes. Application rates shall be determined according to soil texture type as outlined in WAC 246-272-110 and the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) Manual.

For the purposes of creating new lots, WAC 246-272-100 Minimum Land Area Requirement, requires that minimum gross land area exists for a unit volume of sewage (450 gallons per day). Therefore an onsite sewage disposal system application submitted for the purposes of creating a new lot shall designate an onsite sewage disposal system area for a minimum three (3) bedroom single family dwelling. (Note: this regulation has been in effect since July 1984.)

The Snohomish Health District (SHD) considers potential bedrooms as bedrooms regardless of placement of closets and windows, and regardless of door placement or width or location in the structure. Rooms which are considered potential bedrooms include but are not limited to: dens, offices, sewing rooms, studies, computer rooms, music rooms, hobby rooms, lofts, unfinished rooms, bonus rooms, libraries, exercise rooms, etc. The SHD does acknowledge that rooms such as living rooms, dining rooms, storage areas, closets and utility rooms are not typically considered potential bedrooms.

---

Robert A. Pekich, Director  
Environmental Health Division

Date: February 1, 1989  
Rev: 021600j