

HOST (Homeowner Septic Training) – free!
Classroom & Field Instruction
reserved for you and your neighbors
Mon., Sept. 8, 2 - 5 pm

You have received this bulletin because you own land inside South Holmes Harbor Shellfish Protection District boundaries. Preliminary results from 18 months of sampling your neighborhood's surface water show the presence of fecal coliform bacteria in the area's waters.

One probable source of the fecal contamination is human waste, from failing septic systems. Learn proper maintenance and operation of your residential septic system through a free 3-hour program called HOST (Homeowner Septic Training).

We have set aside Sept. 8th from 2 to 5 pm for homeowners in your area to take HOST. It is a multi-media presentation, with a field visit to a demonstration septic park and an informal classroom session, located at County Parks Shop, 497 Patmore Rd, south of Coupeville. Carpool with a neighbor!

Under new State and Local Health Department rules, residents inside sensitive areas, such as South Holmes Harbor Shellfish Protection District (HH SPD), must have their septic system inspected annually, beginning in 2009.

Homeowners with conventional (gravity) septic systems inside HH SPD who complete HOST will be able to conduct their own yearly inspections, and report their findings to the Health Department.

Owners of all other types of systems (pressure/pump, mound, sand-filter, or other alternative system) inside HH SPD must hire a licensed maintenance service provider to conduct the annual inspection. Even if yours is an alternative type septic, HOST will help you understand how to keep your system in good working condition, and what to expect of your inspector.

Over a year ago, your County established the South Holmes Harbor Shellfish Protection District because the waters in the harbor contained fecal contamination, probably deposited there when rainwater flows downhill through your community, picking up fecal waste in its path. Fecal bacteria can make shellfish unsafe for humans to eat. That is why the waters there are closed to harvest of shellfish.

Finding elevated levels of fecal bacteria in your area does not mean that your property or workplace or neighborhood is the sole cause of the contamination. And, it is unlikely that the contamination is from a single source. Rather, it is probably a combination of activities including failed septic systems, improper pet waste disposal, livestock manure mismanagement, and wildlife droppings.

As we continue to identify neighborhood problems, we are working with residents to help resolve them. We hope you join us Sept. 8th, 2-5 pm – please let us know you're coming, and include your name, address and parcel number (from your tax statement)—that way, we can have your septic as-built ready for you. Message 360-321-5111 x6069 or e-mail HomeownerSeptic@co.island.wa.us (subject line = HH-HOST).

And if you can't make it to that class, please pick another date from the schedule on the back. Be sure to mention that you live inside HH SPD, so we can give priority to your choice of class date/time.



South Holmes Harbor Shellfish Protection District
ISLAND COUNTY PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PHONE from South Whidbey (360) 321-5111, ext. 6069 (leave message, we'll call you back)
FAX: (360) 679-7306 ■ 1 NE 6th Street, P. O. Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239-5000
www.islandcounty.net/planning/holmesharbor.htm

HOST* SCHEDULE - 2008

3-hour classroom & field training

(*Homeowner Septic Training)

W = Whidbey Island

C = Camano Island

Camano classes begin in October 2008

SEPTEMBER			
Mon	8	2 – 5 pm	W
Sat	13	9:30am – 12:30 pm	W
Tues	23	9 am – 12 pm	W
Tues	23	6 – 9 pm	W
Sat	27	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	W
Sat	27	1:30 – 4:30 pm	W
Mon	29	1-4 pm	W

OCTOBER			
Mon	6	11 am – 2 pm	W
Thurs	9	9 am -12 pm	W
Thurs	9	4 – 7 pm	W
Tues	14	1 - 4 pm	W
Wed	15	5 – 8 pm	W
Sat	18	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	W
Sat	18	3 – 6 pm	W
Wed	22	1 – 4 pm	C
Sat	25	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	C
Sat	25	2-5 pm	C
Mon	27	2 – 5 pm	W
Thurs	30	9:30 – 12:30 pm	W

NOVEMBER			
Sat	1	10 am – 1 pm	C
Tues	4	1 – 4 pm	W
Fri	7	3 – 6 pm	C
Tues	11	9:30 am – 12:30 pm	C
Mon	17	1 – 4 pm	W
Wed	19	1 – 4 pm	W
Fri	28	10 am – 1 pm	W

DECEMBER			
Wed	3	11 am – 2 pm	W
Fri	5	11 am – 2 pm	C
Thurs	11	11 am – 2 pm	W
Sat	13	10 am – 1 pm	W
Tues	16	10 am – 1 pm	C

2009 schedule will be posted in December '08

SIGNING UP

By eMail HomeownerSeptic@co.island.wa.us

1. Your name
2. Physical address of your residence/s
3. Parcel number/s (from your tax statement)
4. Mailing address (if different)
5. Phone number/s
6. Your 1st, 2nd & 3rd choice of class dates & times -- if you're unable to attend the Sept. 8th training.

Or send your info & class choices to
ISLAND CO. PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

HOST • POB 5000 • Coupeville WA 98239-5000

Camano Island 360-629-4522 x6069

North/Central Whidbey 360-678-5111 x6069

South Whidbey 360-321-5111 x6069

To accommodate as many as possible, one homeowner, per residence, per class.

Priority will be given to homeowners who are eligible to inspect their own systems. Owners of other systems will be scheduled for later classes.

Carpooling encouraged—sign up with your neighbor! Parking at Whidbey site is limited.

You will be notified of your class assignment.

You will also be provided with a DVD tutorial. It is an introduction to residential septic system care and maintenance. It takes about 40 minutes, including a short test, and can be completed at your leisure.

Bring your answer sheet to class. To receive Certificate of Completion, Homeowner must turn in answer sheet.

HH SPD residents attending Sept. 8 class

You will view the DVD during the classroom session and take the short test ("open book") while there. You will also be given a copy of the DVD to keep for future use at home. Even if you don't have a conventional (gravity) septic, you'll find the info helpful in maintaining your septic.

Please come prepared for the weather. Classrooms are indoors, BUT demonstration parks are outside.

If you need to cancel, please give advance notice – leave message at above phone numbers.

Whidbey 497 Patmore Rd., so. of Coupeville

Limited parking. Late arrivals please park safely off the pavement alongside Patmore. Directions: .4 mi SE of SR 20 on Patmore; turn at County Off-Leash Dog Park sign; class is at Parks Shop, first driveway on left.

Camano -- 585 Lewis Ln, Camano at Four Springs

Lake Preserve, in Barn or Meadow room – [look for sign](#). Parking for Barn via service road, at west end of main parking lot. For Meadow Room, park in main lot & follow walkway. Directions to Four Springs Lake Preserve: Turn N onto Lewis Ln off W. Camano Hill Road.