

# One Hectare Policy



Local Government Infrastructure Unit



Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs

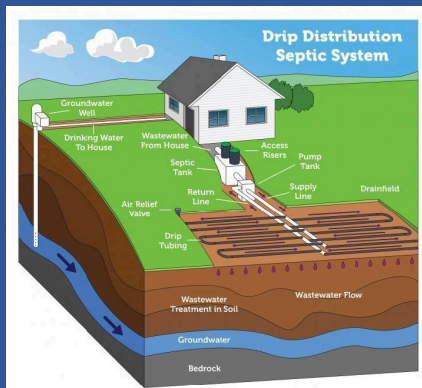
# Provincial Roles in Wastewater

- Environment & Climate Change Strategy – Municipal Wastewater Regulation under Environmental Management Act; regulates larger treatment systems / Liquid Waste Management Plans
- Health – Public Health Act, Sewerage System Regulation, related guidelines and policies
  - Health Authorities – under Public Health Act; accept filings and letters of certification for onsite wastewater; investigate system failures & health hazards
- Municipal Affairs - Oversees local government system
  - Infrastructure funding programs:
    - Consistent with broader provincial policies and objectives
    - Support good practices through eligibility and funding condition requirements



# Wastewater - One Hectare Policy

- A bylaw requiring community sewer\* to all lots less than 1 hectare
- OR
- An approved Liquid Waste Management Plan that identifies decentralized wastewater management, supported by appropriate bylaws/policies/plans



Applied as a condition to MUNI wastewater infrastructure grants for the last 29+ years



# Policy Intentions

- By design, funding for infrastructure supported by responsible planning and management
- Prevention of future demands on funding programs from onsite system failures
- Recognizes sewer systems as preferred servicing approach for smaller lot subdivisions, with alternative
- Environmental and public health protection through risk reduction.



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# Current Context

- Growth increasing demand for land/density and infrastructure services
- Climate factors - increasing concern for aquifer and surface water health, water availability, events such as wildfires, flooding and drought, climate change mitigation
- Increasing need to plan collaboratively as watersheds/regions
- LWMPs provide a process for planning around wastewater



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# Meeting the Policy Through Alternative Decentralized WW Management Approach

- The following should be addressed:
  - The mechanism by which cumulative hydraulic loading from onsite sewage disposal systems will safely and sustainably be handled in the overall soils environment;
  - The area(s) where development of new properties that will not receive community sewer is propose;
  - A bio-solids management plan;
  - A septage collection and disposal plan; and
  - A community plan for the management and maintenance of onsite septic systems;



# Ministry Supports

- Connect with Ministry staff – Local Government Infrastructure Unit
  - [infra@gov.bc.ca](mailto:infra@gov.bc.ca) or 250 387-4060
- Infrastructure Planning Grant Program
  - Up to \$10,000 towards planning for sustainable infrastructure
  - Work related to developing or amending LWMP eligible



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# Questions



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