

Jefferson County Public Health Performance Measures

2015 Year-end Report

DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

PROGRAMS: Drinking Water

MISSION: The mission of the Drinking Water Program is to protect public health by assuring that residents and visitors to Jefferson County have access to a safe and reliable supply of quality drinking water and that it is reasonably available. By enforcing and monitoring laws regulating public and private water supplies, the Drinking Water Program minimizes the threat of waterborne disease.

Goal	Objective	Task	Performance Measure	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Planned	2015 Actual
Goal 1: Assure that all new and decommissioned wells are constructed in accordance with requirements established by the Washington Department of Ecology (ECY) or defer enforcement to ECY	Inspect at least 50% of all new wells constructed with 25% of these with the well driller present and 90% of all wells being decommissioned	Be available when well start notifications are received to conduct inspections within 3 days of start	Percent of new wells (starts) inspected	54%	50%	73%	60%	50%	71%
			Percent of inspected wells with driller on site	65%	75%	76%	66%	25%	42%
		When a well application is received for a decommissioning contact the well driller to discuss timing and schedule.	Percent decommissioned well inspected	100%	100%	95%	88%	100%	88%
Goal 2: Integrate water adequacy review with compliance with Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 17 and the In-Stream Flow Rule (ISFR)	Comply with reporting requirements from ECY by updating database to include means to track ISFR information	Determine through review of building permit applications and subdivision potable water review if subject to requirements of ISFR rule (map check and parcel info)	Number of reviews in Coastal Management area of WRIA 17	5	10	7	10	10	14
			Number of reviews in Reserve Management area of WRIA 17	2	1	5	10	10	7
			Number of reviews in Chimacum Sub-basin of WRIA 17	2	5	4	2	9	4
		Determine the sub-basin and management area in accordance with rule.	Number of reviews that were exempted from WRIA 17 rule. (ECY decision)	0	1	7	2	2	3
			Add activities and conditions that allow for data tracking	Subdivision lots approved	N/A	0	0	2	2

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Goal 3: Integrate water adequacy review with compliance to the Seawater Intrusion Ordinance	Comply with the requirements of the (DCD) Jefferson County Seawater Intrusion ordinance and update maps annually	Create report in database to determine through quality testing required for building permits and subdivisions potable water review if subject to the requirements	Number of wells that created a new at-risk zone	0	3	0	1	1	2
			Number of wells in a high risk zone	0	1	1	0	1	0
		Establish new at risk or high risk zones	Number of Hydro-geological assessments reviewed	NR*	2 NR*	2 NR*	1	1	1

Goal 4: Minimize delay of building permits and subdivisions project approval and completing by prioritizing water adequacy review	Conduct initial review of all potable water review applications within 14 days of application	Create reports in database to establish date of initial review and statistics to better assess issues around timely approval	Percent of reviews completed in 14 days	NR*	40%	77%	59%	85%	90%
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Goal 5 Ensure consistent compliance with drinking water requirements	Work toward coordination with other permitting agencies. Those agencies include but are not limited to DOH (in-stream flow rule and public water supplies), Washington State Department of Agriculture (food processing permit applications), JC food safety, JC onsite and DCD	Establish regular meeting dates and agreements when applications trigger coordination Partner with WSU in ongoing educational workshops along with other regulatory agencies	Presentations to public or participation in public forums	2	3	1	1	1	2
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*NR= "need report" these numbers were manually hand counted prior to database update to calculate from activities entered in database.

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2015 SUMMARY OF KEY FUNDING/SERVICE ISSUES:

- Recent updates and improvements to our database and shifting existing programs into Tidemark have facilitated data transfer across multiple departments for better coordination and efficiency.
- Performance measures have been substantially modified to more accurately capture goals and objectives that relate directly to tasks. Continued efforts are needed to update fields within the database to better capture statistics, performance and funding needs. Focus must continue to be on maintaining consistent data entry, verifying accuracy and determine ways to make information readily available for the public.
- Improvement in reporting from the database continues. Priority should be communication with the Department of Community Development to minimize unnecessary duplication, multiple data entries and inaccurate information.
- More staffing resources are needed to complete standard operating procedures, update drinking water policies and evaluate the program to ensure processes are adequately documented and consistent requirements are maintained regardless of future staffing changes.
- Cross training staff in drinking water related issues continues to be needed. The current staffing budget is approximately .4 FTE, up from .3 FTE last year with now and now two individuals trained in the well inspection program and another individual partially trained as back up for potable water review. There is no back up for conducting public water supply inspections at this time. Some of the statistics indicate improvements as a result of some additional support in the program.
- The number of wells decommissioned remains the same as last year's total. Decommissioning statistics include new well attempts where the result is either dry or untreatable water (mostly chlorides) and the well is decommissioned, prior to the driller leaving the site. That process of tracking started approximately 2007.
- Efforts have been made to establish a consistent and adequate funding source to focus on drinking water issues with a new increase to the fee associated with potable water review. Additionally, consistent time tracking is undertaken during permit application processing in order to recoup the costs in excess of the fees submitted.
- Water quality and quantity is a topic expected to be at the forefront of future development, environmental sustainability and climate change. Lacking appropriate resources directed to the issue, staff may be at a severe disadvantage to appropriately respond to the broad range of issues in this regard.
- The "up front review" process for single family residence permit applications is ongoing.

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2015 STUDY/ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

- Streamlining of the Group A public water supply inspection program (sanitary survey) has resulted in much more efficient completion of assigned water system reports. As a result, technical assistance funds are being utilized at a level not seen in prior years.
- In-house expertise regarding drinking water must continue to be a priority. Cross training in some of the drinking water tasks have begun, making improvement on performance evident.
- Public outreach efforts this year focused on drought and climate change/adaptation strategies. Jefferson County Public Health must continue to be a presence in the community and participate in trainings/seminar that provide multi-jurisdictional and public interactions. These opportunities benefit better coordination and messaging related to water issues and climate change. Forums give rise to new and creative means to initiate policy development better educate the public on appropriate conservation measures that minimize impacts of water shortages while at the same time meet the requirements of code.
- Applications for well inspections were marginally up from last year but continue to be down substantially since 2008. Actual number of wells drilled in the county is up by approximately 30% from last year's totals.
- Review of processes related to potable water review for building permits and subdivisions have improved markedly from years past. Credit is largely due to better communication between Department of Community Development staff and Environmental Health.
- Time associated with processing potable water review is being tracked but calculation of the data from the database still needs improvement. There was a 28% increase from 2014 in completing review of a building permit by EH staff within 14 days. The increase efficiency can be attributed to two issues; applications submitted have been complete or rejected at the applications submittal stage and there has been some cross training to provide back up when primary staff are out of the office on leave.
- Data also indicates that the overall time from submittal to approval of the potable water activity has decreased by 39%, indicating that both intake submittals are improving and client correction are more prompt. The request for additional information from the client decreased from 28% in 2014 to 22% in 2015 indicating intake staff is not only better trained but has also minimized incomplete submittals due to extensive checklists that have been created.
- The LEAN process that began in 2014 has shown some improvement in review for single family residence permitting. The "Up- Front Review" has been implemented. The new process involves staff from each department, responsible for review of a submittal, to attend a meeting during submittal for specifically single family residence permit applications. We have agreed to attend appointments Monday through Thursday from 9-12. Any appointments for single family residence scheduled after that time will need to be routed as has been in the past. The intent is to review the project

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with the applicant and provide immediate feedback on what will be necessary to approve the permit in accordance with each department's requirements. This process has allowed much better relations with applicants, has resulted in more complete submittals and has improved turnaround time for single family resident building permits. The hope is to eventually allow for very nearly same day turn around for permits, however, data entry, receipt of fees and routing appropriate paper work thus far has hampered this goal.

- While there were no High risk seawater intrusion hydrogeological assessments completed this year, each submittal continues to be a challenge for EH staff. A structure for recouping fees has been implemented, however, determinations made upon assessment reviews due to poorly crafted hydrogeological assessment submittals remain difficult for staff. These are large, complex and expensive reports. When information in them does not match, is not factual or demonstrates an adverse impact, conflict with the engineer and/or the client can ensue. The hydrogeological assessment reviewed in 2014 has yet to result in a building permit approval.
- The I-502 recreational marijuana operations continue to cause considerable consternation across the department for both wastewater and water. With regard to water, implementation of the water resource management regulations of WRIA 17 and the areas with severe limitations for groundwater withdrawals for new development are hampered by the fact that irrigation water does not trigger department review. We are doing our best to inform Ecology of submittals as we know about them. The process of permitting these facilities appropriately has been very time consuming and inconsistent both across Jefferson County departments but also from county to county and across state agencies.
- All of the drinking water related policies need to be updated to reflect current codes and processes. Most of the policy's date from the 1990's. Revised and updated state DOH and ECY joint guidelines were to be issued in 2014 to address this need. Unfortunately, due to state-wide politics, that guideline issuance has been postponed until further work can be completed. We anticipate this work to be completed sometime in 2015 and we eagerly await its issuance.
- Coordinated Water System Planning in the county has been disabled, the planning department has lost their expertise in long range planning and there is no consistent water resource planning discussions. All of which amount to dwindling ability to conserve, protect and manage water resources.

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DRINKING WATER PROGRAM STATISTICS BY YEAR**

Well inspection program	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
# of well applications received & reviewed	76	83	61	56	36	47	38	43
# of new wells start notification (drilled) (includes some well applications from previous years)	79	77	62	57	28	23	20	31
# of wells decommissioned	17	8	13	12	12	20	8	8
# of new wells inspected	48	53	32	31	16	17	12	22
% of new wells (starts) inspected	63%	68%	52%	54%	78%	73%	60%	71%
# of inspected wells with driller on site (includes new and decommissioned wells)			25	28	21	13	21	16
% of inspected wells with driller on site			55%	65%	85%	76%	66%	42%
# of decommissioned wells inspected	17	8	13	12	12	19	7	7
% decommissioned well inspected	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	88%	88%

Determination of adequate potable water		2013	2014	2015
# of potable water reviews completed	New Categories Added in 2012	99	82	90
# of reviews complete in 14 days		79	49	81
% of reviews done within 14 days		82%	60%	90%
# of reviews for public water.		57	34	59
# of reviews for two party wells.		8	8	7
# of reviews for individual wells.		34	37	23
# of reviews for rainwater catchment systems.		1	2	1
# of reviews for shallow/dug wells		2	1	1
# of reviews for spring water		1	1	1
# of reviews in High Risk SIPZ Zones with Hydrogeologic assessments		1	1	0
# of reviews that required Notice to Title for quality		1	3	3
# of review that required Notice to Title for quantity		1	3	3
# of reviews in Coastal Management area of WRIA 17		14	17	14
# of reviews in Reserve Management area of WRIA 17		6	2	7
# of reviews in Chimacum sub-basin		6	5	4
# of reviews that were exempted from WRIA 17 rule.		7	1	3