



# Onsite Sewage System Ordinance Revision



## **Presenter**

John Kiess

Environmental Health Director

# What is an Onsite Sewage System?

Onsite sewage systems (OSS), also known as septic systems, treat wastewater from private residences, restaurants, or other situations where flows are less than 3,500 gallons per day.



# Kitsap Public Health OSS Program

Currently, there are more than 57,000 onsite sewage systems in Kitsap County.

1961 – First local OSS ordinance, 15 years before a State rule

2011 – Last amendment to the current Kitsap Public Health Board Ordinance 2008A-01



# Washington State Department of Health Rule Revision

**2018** – WA DOH initiated the WAC 246-272A rule revision process

**January 2024** – New rule adopted by the State Board of Health with an effective date of April 1, 2025

Local health jurisdictions can use this interim period to update their local regulations to be submitted and approved by DOH to become effective after DOH approval



# WA DOH Rule Revision Key Changes

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- **Requires OSS property transfer inspections at time of sale**
- **Establishes a “Minor Repair” definition and exemption to permitting for minor repairs**
- **For OSS repairs (replacements) establishes requirements and enforcement and reporting of OSS failures**
- **Provides support for a local OSS remediation policy**
- Increases minimum lot size and useable land area requirements for the creation of new lots that will utilize OSS
- Adds new definitions and updates technical design standards
- Within the next two years, DOH will review our existing local OSS management plan and let us know if revisions are required (we have a desire to update this outdated plan already).

# Kitsap Public Health Ordinance Revision Timeline

- **January** – Started monthly ordinance revision meetings with existing OSS Technical Advisory Committee
- **May** – Kitsap Public Health Board update
- **October** – Kitsap Public Health Board update
- Public/Stakeholder comment period
- **November** – Draft rule sent to DOH for approval (approved 11/18/2024)
- **January/February 2025** – Kitsap Public Health Board public hearing for adoption of new ordinance



# THANK YOU!

## Members of our Technical Advisory Committee

A Aeration Services

Dano's Septic

Dave's Septic Services

Horizon Wastewater Inc.

Indigo Septic Design Co.

Ron Hemley's Septic Installations

Special thanks to Kim Jones, KPHD OSS Program Manager



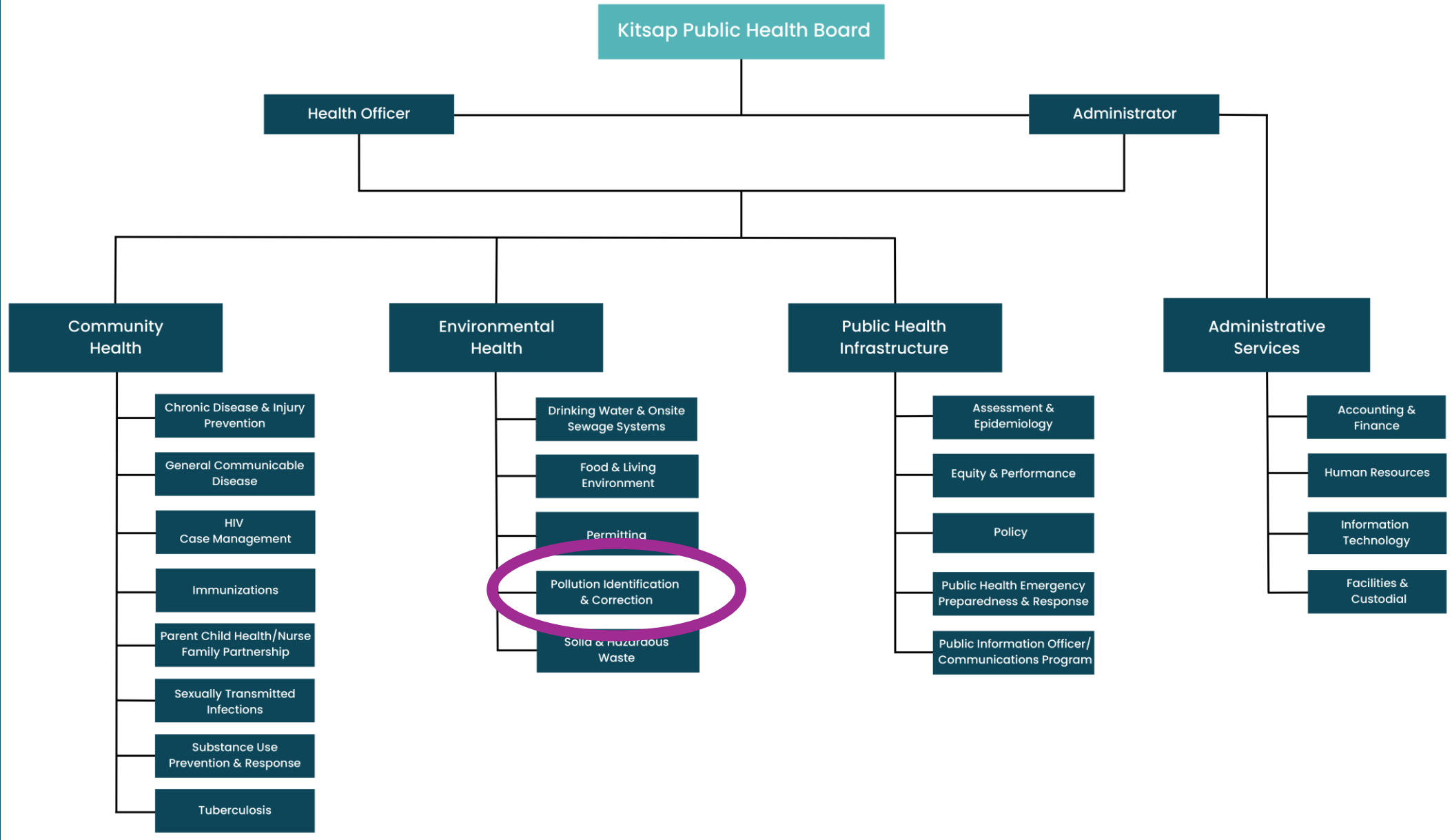


# 2024 Water Quality Report



**Dayna Katula**  
Manager  
Pollution Identification & Correction Program







**Leslie**  
29 years



**Ross**  
23 years



**Ian**  
9 years



**Brandon**  
7 years



**Tobbi**  
7 years



**Mel**  
4 years



**Nolan**  
3 years

# Clean Water Kitsap partnership

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# *Clean Water Kitsap*

## *Partners in Stormwater Solutions*



WSU EXTENSION  
Kitsap County





# What we do

# How we do it

We use proactive and reactive approaches.

- Education
- Shoreline monitoring
- Stream monitoring
- Lake monitoring
- Complaint response
- Investigations

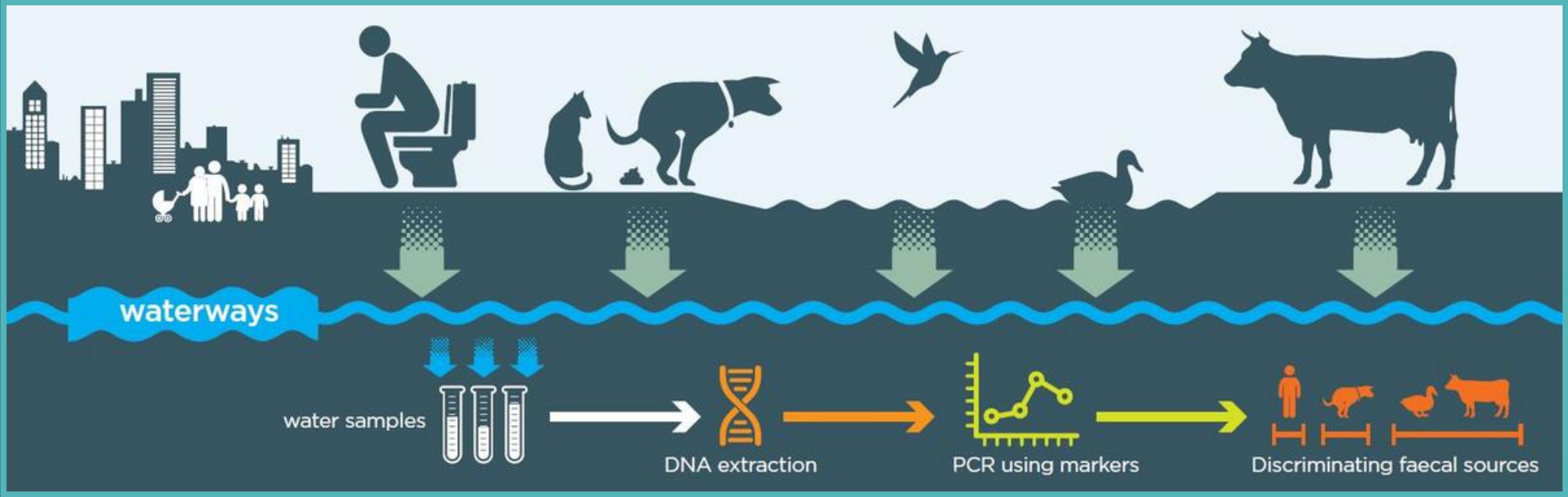


# 2024 Water Quality Report

[Click here](#)

# A quick note

## Microbial source tracking (MST)



We prevent illness  
from swimming or  
eating shellfish.

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