



PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

David Brummel, Director
Jill Timm, Deputy Director

Memorandum

Date: December 2, 2025
To: Septic, Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) Permit Applicants
From: Gary Bruns, Program Supervisor
Re: Frozen Ground Conditions

Winter conditions are upon us, and field observations have confirmed frozen ground conditions in many areas. These frozen ground conditions mean the following.

- Performing field review and verification of soils is not allowed when the soils are frozen.
- We cannot approve permits without field verification of soil conditions.
- Excavation and surface preparation of the septic systems absorption area is not allowed when soil moisture content is above the plastic limit or when soils are frozen or freezing.

Please contact Washington County Public Health and Environment Department at 651-430-6655 with any technical or site-specific questions.

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