

Clark County Public Health

On-Site Sewage System Operation & Maintenance

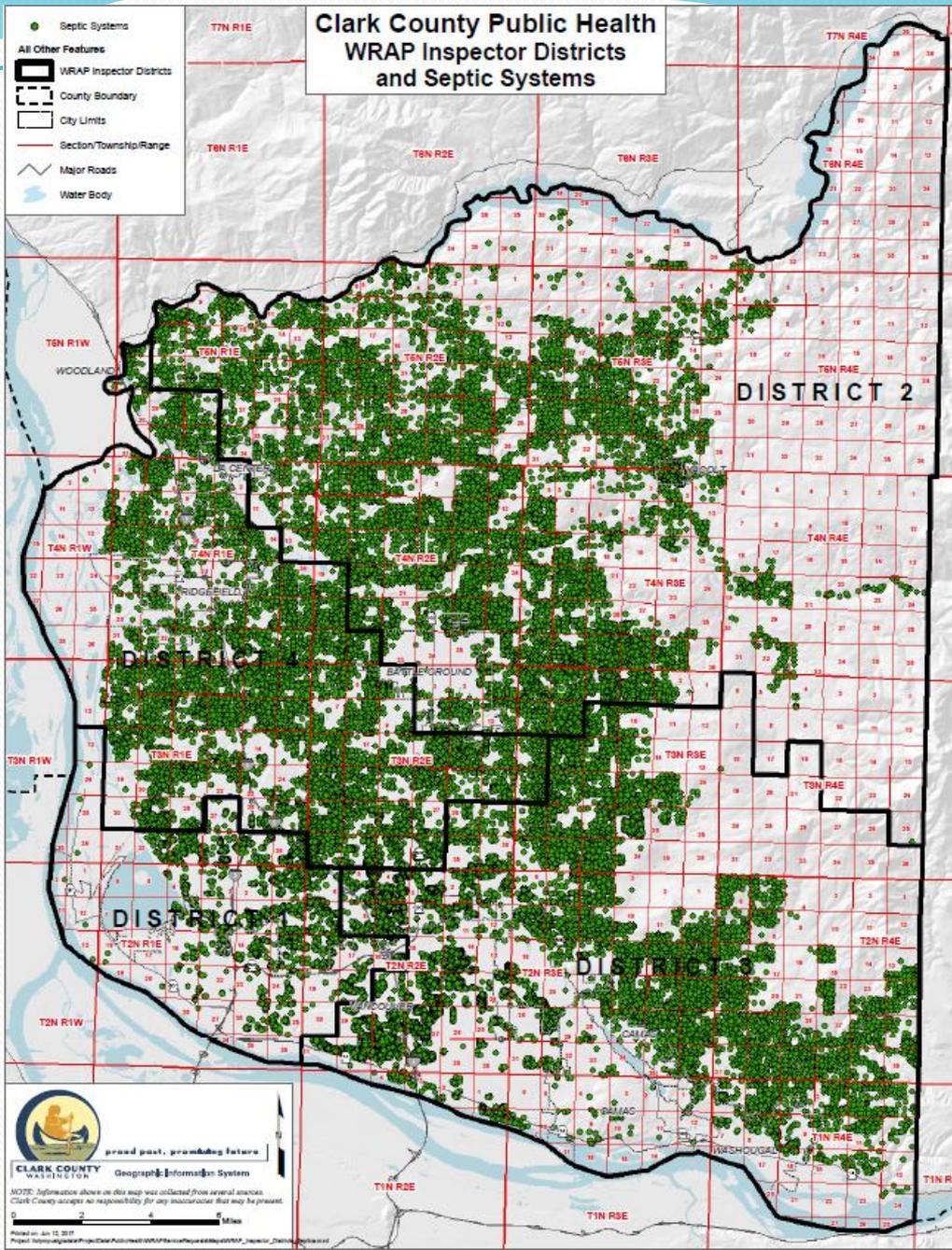
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YEAH, I'LL QUIT SOMEDAY...
..WHEN IT STOPS
BEIN' FUN.





Test Your Knowledge

Q: In Clark County, how Many On-Site Sewage systems are there?

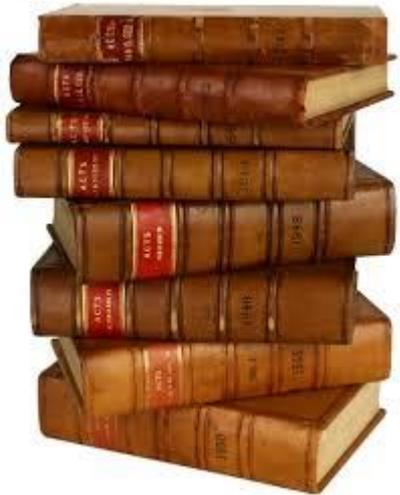
A: approximately 34,500

Q: What percentage of drinking water is pulled from the ground aquifer?

A: 98%

Applicability

- Clark County Public Health (CCPH) regulates on-site sewage systems under
 - Washington State Administrative Code 246-272A
 - Clark County Code 24.17



Operation & Maintenance Goals

- *Protect drinking water resources (ground and surface)*
 - *Private and public well locations.*
 - *Surface waters like Whipple Creek, East Fork Lewis, Burnt Bridge Creek, Lacamas Lake, etc.*
- *Prevent direct exposure to pathogens.*
 - *Surfacing sewage.*
- *Protect homeowner investment*
 - *New OSS cost \$15,000 on average.*
 - *Public Sewer connection can cost around \$8,000 - \$15,000*
 - *Frequent inspections and maintenance can extend the life a OSS system.*

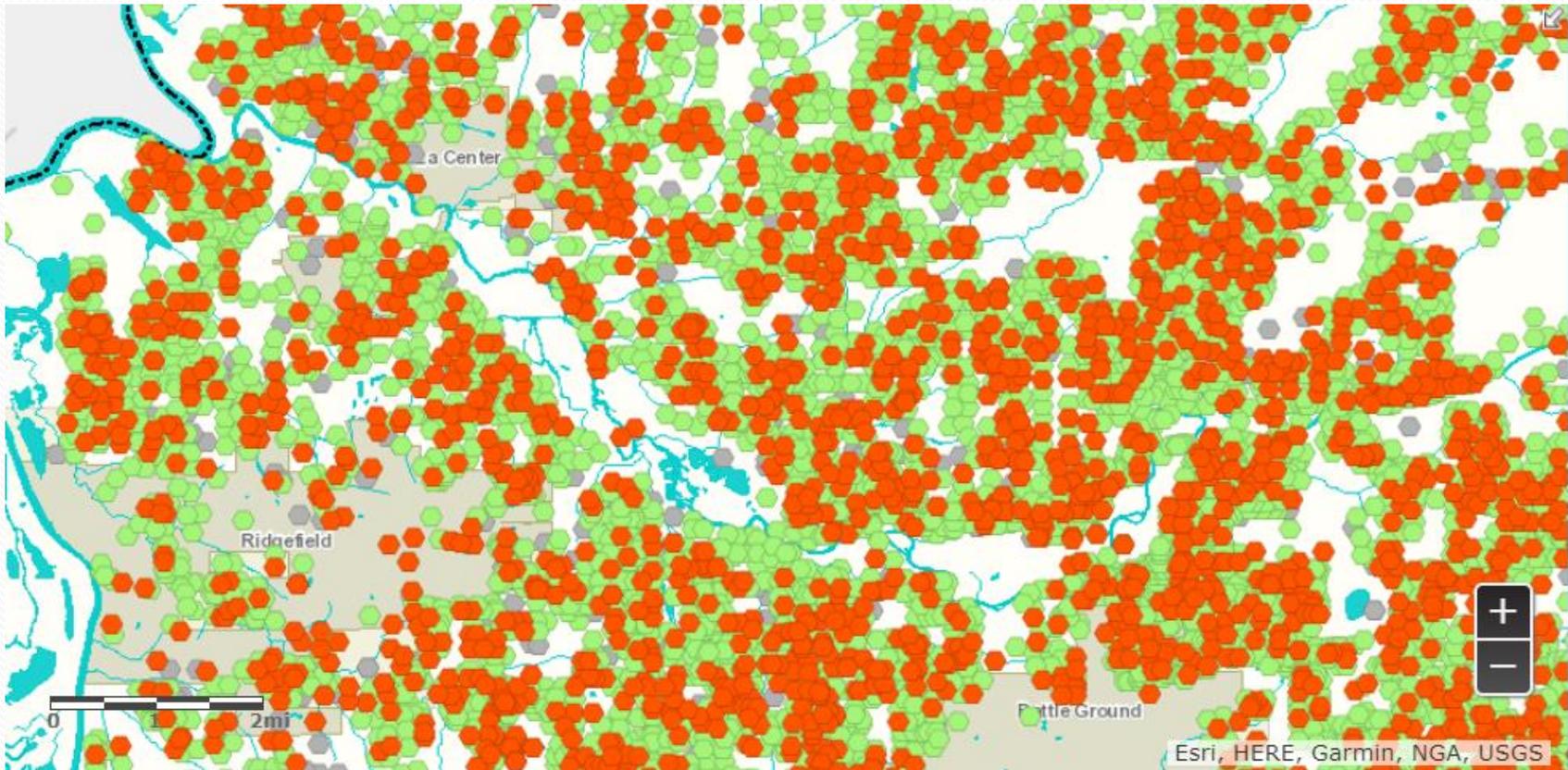
OSS In East Fork Lewis

Septic System Inspection Status

Past Due

Current

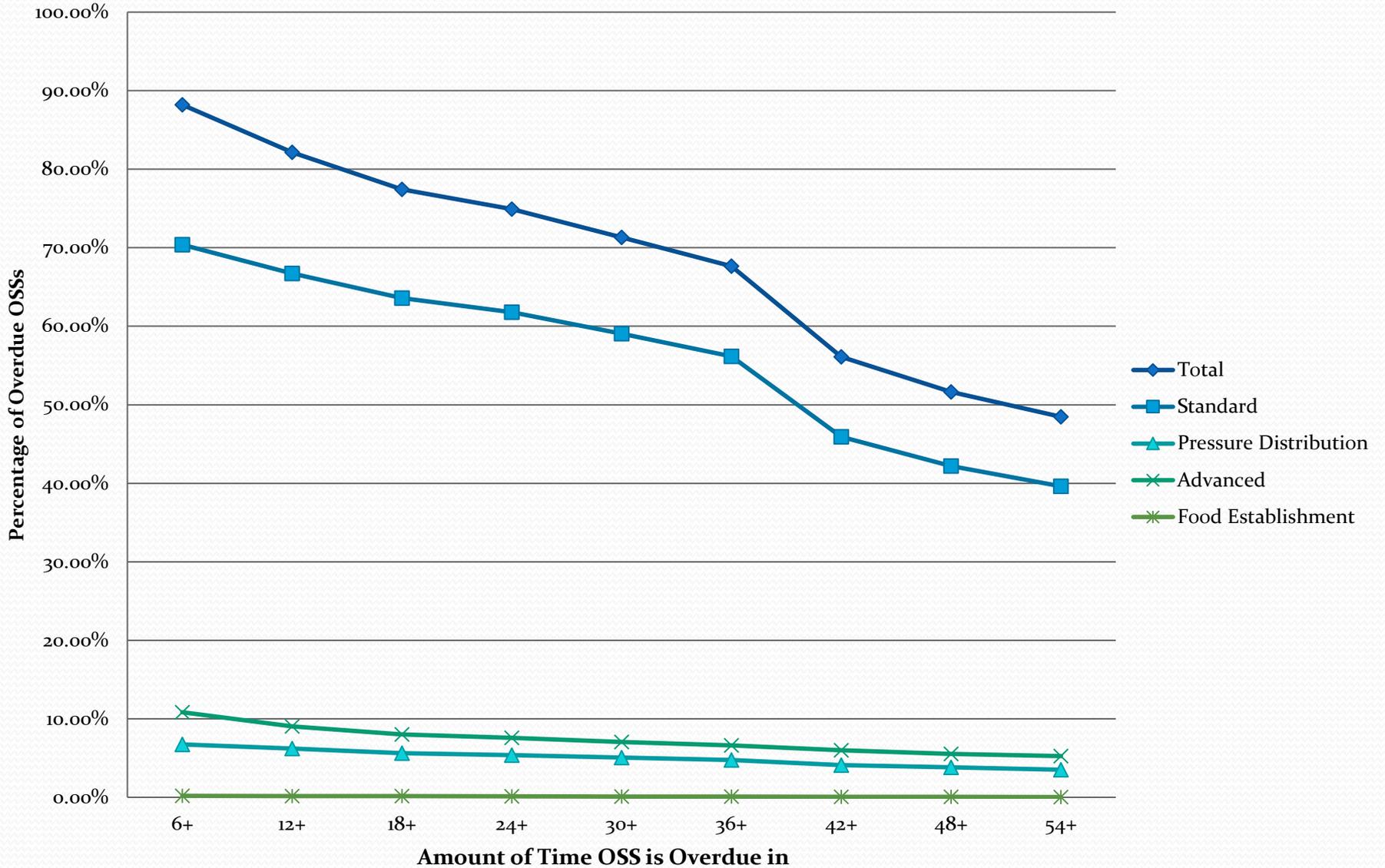
No Data



Inspection Compliance

- Currently OSS inspection is voluntary compliance.
- July 2015
 - Inspection compliance at 49%
 - Past Due Operation and Maintenance begins (PDOM)
- May 2018
 - Inspection compliance at 70%

Percentage of Non-Compliant (10,626) OSSs and Length of Time Since Last Inspection



Inspections Moving Forward

- CCPH is moving from voluntary to mandatory inspection compliance.
- First phase is complete through adding additional financial aid resources to Clark County residence who need major repairs or replacement.
- Researching responsible enforcement tools.
- CCPH is looking at rolling out mandatory compliance over a 5-7 year period.
 - Focus on Zones of Contribution
 - Focus on water sheds, such as Whipple Creek and East Fork Lewis.



Credits: NASA/JPL-Caltech

On February 14, 1990, NASA's Voyager 1 took a picture of our solar system beyond the orbit of Neptune. The "pale blue dot" is earth. At the time Voyager 1 was 40 astronomical units (equates to 3 trillion 720 billion miles) from the sun.

