SEPTIC INSTALLER CLASS 2026

EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH

EHS	Phone #'s	E-Mail	Area/Counties
Nathan Taylor	208-523-5382	ntaylor@eiph.idaho.gov	Swan Valley
Vincent McHenry	208-533-3170	vmchenry@eiph.idaho.gov	Jefferson
Chris Ellis	208-533-3172	cellis@eiph.idaho.gov	Bonneville Madison
Melinda Fuentes-Mobo	208-533-3176	Mfuentes-mobo@eiph.idaho.gov	Lemhi Mon - Thurs
Katarina Whitson	208-533-3173	kwhitson@eiph.idaho.gov	Fremont
Amy Shaw	208-533-3175	ashaw@eiph.idaho.gov	Custer Mon – Thurs
Shane Christian	208-533-3174	schristian@eiph.idaho.gov	Teton

Messages returned same day or following morning

- Include permit number when calling for an inspection or asking questions about a specific permit.
- FYI, voicemails get transcribed by AI so speak clearly…….

New voicemail

Rigby EH has received a new voicemail.

RIGBY EH
(208) [redacted]
11:46AM

This is [redacted]. I came in yesterday for a septic permit application, I was just calling to let Vincent know that we got our whole dog ready for inspection. Give me a call back at 208-[redacted] thanks.

Voicemail transcripts are an experiment. They might not be perfect yet :)

Listen to voicemail

CURRENT EIPH FEE SCHEDULE

SEPTIC PERMITS

- **Individual System**
  - **New** **$900**
  - **Expansion/Remodel** **$900**
  - **Failed/Repair** **$900**
- **Central (> 2 connections) and Large Soil Absorption System**
  - **New or repair** **$3,000**
- **Tank Only/Vault Privy** **$450**
- **Permit Renewal** **$50**
- **Speculative Site Eval** **$450**
- **P&Z review (permission-to-connect)** **$150**

SEPTIC INSTALLERS LICENSE

- Fee
  - $50 (Basic)
  - $100 (Complex/Service Provider)
- Bond
  - $10,000 (Basic)
  - $30,000 (Complex/Service Provider)

DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR 2026 LICENSE?

Both fee and bond needed for license!

ALSO: Lawful Presence verified (THIS YEAR ONLY)

If you haven't received your license (and you have paid) we probably don't have your bond or lawful presence

Call Pati 523-5382

NO LICENSE = NO INSPECTION

Note: Please verify that the phone number on our installer list is correct

GOAL WITH THIS PRESENTATION

- Educate about common issues/mistakes
- Help you improve quality and be more efficient
- Speed up the inspection process
- Minimize/eliminate any follow-up inspections

- Note: During the summer, there may be some delays in permitting during those busy months. Plan on 2 to 4 weeks. Inspections still done within 48hrs.

To connect a new structure or add additional wastewater flow to an existing septic system:

- First, submit a public records request for the existing permit (eiph.idaho.gov)
- Do your own calculations to determine if the tank and drainfield are large enough to handle the additional flows
  - Each structure must have at least a 1000-gallon tank
  - Each dwelling unit must have at least a 1000-gallon tank
  - Note: Most systems are not sized to handle additional flows!
- Submit the application and $150 fee
- EHS will either approve the application or write a letter of denial

- The $150 permit fee is not refundable or transferable!

So, you want to change the permit?

- Permit must still be viable (not expired)
- Submit form and $450 fee
- Reason(s) for change must be noted on the form

Eastern Idaho Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Date Paid:_____
Rcpt:_____ Amt:_____

SEPTIC PERMIT AMENDMENT REQUEST FORM

Requester:_____Phone #_____

Mailing Address:_____
Address City State Zip

Email Address:_____

Septic Permit #_____

Amendment requested for consideration:

_____ Change in septic system type: *Existing Type*_____ *Requested Type*_____

_____ Change in location of septic system (*Please provide new plot plan)*

_____ Change in size of septic system (*Please provide new floor plans)*

_____ Change in depth of septic system (*Please provide a test hole)*

_____ Change in surface water separation distance (*Please provide new plot plan and test hole)*

_____ Change in bedroom count (*Please provide new floor plans)*

_____ Additional connection is being added like a barn, RV, or shop. (*Please provide new floor plans and plot plan)*

_____ Other: _____

This evaluation in no way guarantees that the existing permit can be amended. Permits must be current (not expired) in order to be considered for possible amendment. An amendment issuance does not change the date of the original permit's expiration.

I hereby authorize access to this property for the purpose of conducting an evaluation.

Signed by:_____ Date:_____

EIPH Use Only

New Floor Plan_____ New Plot Plan_____ New Engineering Design_____

Test Hole Information:
Depth of Test Hole:_____ Predominant soil type observed:_____
Bedrock encountered:_____ Any ground water encountered:_____
Other concerns:_____

*Comments:_____

Amendment Approved: _____YES _____ NO
EHS:_____Date Evaluation Conducted_____
Travel time associated with evaluation:_____Inspection time associated with evaluation:_____

Calling for inspections

- Basic/gravity flow: Call for inspection when installation is complete, not when you are starting, except..
- Complex/pressurized: Inspection must be scheduled with the engineer (electrical inspection first) and EIPH
- Call/text EHS for inspection – we will inspect within 48 hours (Office and cell number are the same)
  - Provide the Permit #, not address or name
  - You will get a response same day or the next morning
- EHS will call/text as soon as inspection is complete

What do we want to see at the time of inspection?

- Letter was sent out in December of 2021
- Open around tank and lids off
  - Tank integrity/bedding, baffles
  - Manhole riser on inlet, and outlet if installing a baffle filter
- Effluent line and T or D-box bedded well
- Drainfield not covered with dirt, rock, sand, or filter fabric

Please leave tank lids open for inspection (no screws in plastic lids)

- Baffles can be inspected
- Can verify correct tank if used as septic tank/pump chamber
- Check integrity of tank (inside and outside)
- Tank must be labelled with
  - manufacturer name
  - capacity in gallons
  - inlet and outlet marked

Tanks in series
Manhole riser on each tank

THIS IS WHAT WE WANT TO SEE!

6” of CLEAN rock under pipe
Rock level, not mounded
Pipe centered
Holes at 5 and 7 o’clock

ROCK AND PIPE

We **DON'T** want to see this!

OR THIS

Can't see length of pipe

Can't see orientation of holes

Note: We can allow up to 3 feet of rock past the ends of the pipe to be counted towards the total square footage

6x50ft=300

6x56ft=336

HOLES NOT ORIENTED CORRECTLY

Note: Writing on pipe is not always at the 12 o'clock position

The goal is to achieve uniform distribution by filling the pipe completely first and the water flows out evenly the entire length of the trench

HOLES NOT ORIENTED CORRECTLY OR CONSISTANTLY

Having pipe level and holes aligned at 5 and 7 is key to a properly functioning system

ROCK NOT CLEAN
AND PIPE IS COVERED☹

Aggregate

- IDAPA 58.01.03.008.07. Aggregate. The trench aggregate shall be crushed rock, gravel, or other acceptable, durable and inert material which is, **free of fines**, and has an effective diameter from one-half (1/2) to two and one-half (2 1/2) inches

- USE CLEAN ROCK!!!

NOT CLEAN!!!

IF IT IS NOT CLEAN,

WE WILL BE MEAN!

USE PITS ON THE LIST

STILL CHECK TO BE SURE IT IS CLEAN!

Eastern Idaho Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
1250 Hollipark Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
office (208) 523-5382
fax (208) 526-3857

DRAINFIELD AGGREGATE AND CONSTRUCTION MEDIA APPROVED LIST

Name of Source	Drainfield Aggregate (Drainrock)	Medium Sand (ASTM C-33)	Pea Gravel	Pit Run
Avail Valley – Strawberry Pit, Afton WY	Yes	No	No	No
Bateman Bros – Blosch Pit	Yes	No	No	No
Burns Concrete – Idaho Falls	No	Yes	No	No
Challis Redi-Mix – Challis	Yes	No	No	No
Dahle Red-E-Mix – Salmon	Yes	Yes	No	No
Darby Pit – Driggs	Yes	No	No	No
Depatco – Alotta Pit, Alpine WY	Yes	No	No	No
Edstrom Construction – Teton Pit	No	No	No	Yes
Edstrom Construction – Thornton Pit	Yes	No	No	No
HK Contractors – Heyrend	Yes	No	No	Yes
HK Contractors – Willow Creek	No	No	No	Yes
Parker Sand & Gravel – St Anthony	Yes	Yes	No	No
Rhodehouse Construction – East River Pit	Yes	No	No	No
Rhodehouse Construction – Golden Valley	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sieperts Crushing – St Anthony	Yes	Yes	No	No
Zollinger – Sugar City	Yes	No	No	No

7-17-2023

NOTE: This list will be updated as new sources or aggregate/media become approved. To view our most current list, please visit our web site at and click on the link under **Additional Septic Forms and Program Services**.

Health District approval of an aggregate or construction media source only provides **verification that the source is capable of producing** these materials in conformance with the material specifications.

The Health District may still disapprove drainfield aggregate or construction media if it becomes contaminated during processing, loading, transport, storage or installation either at the source location or at a subsurface sewage disposal installation site. It is the responsibility of those processing, providing, transporting, storing or installing the aggregate or media to ensure the drainfield aggregate or construction media maintains its approved characteristics (i.e. size and cleanliness).

Gravelless trench – leave open for inspection

Too much cover

- Cracked domes?
- Hooked together correctly?
- How many installed?

Effluent pipe and D-box bedded well

Can use:

- Sand
- Any 1-inch minus
- Local topsoil

Well bedded effluent lines

Pressurized pump-to-D-box

Too much cover
Not acceptable

Too much cover

- Can't inspect tank ends, specifically the corners
- Can't inspect effluent line
- Can't inspect outlet seal

Effluent lines not bedded

Good equal distribution on slope: D-box uphill from trenches

Don’t do this…unless baffle isn’t glued, and pipe will be pulled out!

- Looks like tank sits on some bedding
- Concrete tanks will crack on bottom if not bedded well

Proprietary systems: What we want to see at inspection

- Eljen GSF
- Infiltrator AES (formerly Presby)
- AeroFin
- ATL
- Oscar II
- GeoMat

Eljen

This is what we want to see at inspection

- Count number of bales
- White paint stripe up
- Pipe is centered on bale
- Holes at 5 and 7

Note: Vent not required if <18" of cover over bales (3'deep)

Eljen with good sand compaction

ELJEN

NOT ACCEPTABLE!

DO NOT COVER WITH FILTER FABRIC OR SAND

NOTE: FABRIC IS TENTED☹

Infiltrator AES

This is what we want to see at inspection

- Determine pipe length
- Seam is at 12 o'clock
- Spacing between pipes is correct/even
- Vent pipe on end is at correct angle

Infiltrator AES

LITTLE TOO MUCH SAND COVER?

Can see vent pipe bedding and seams

EXCELLENT INSTALLATION

- Seams at 12 o'clock
- Spacing stakes used
- Vent pipes bedded in sand at correct angle

Infiltrator AES

WAY TOO MUCH SAND COVER

- Can’t determine pipe length accurately
- Seam orientation?
- Vent pipe had to be uncovered
- Proper spacing?

AEROFIN

Best time for inspection

Spacers showing

Not covered with sand

- You could fill partly up with sand, just don't cover the tops

GeoMat

Squirt test

SAND EXTENSIONS ON THE ENDS OF THE TRENCH (count towards drainfield square footage)

- Eljen: 6" min – 24" max
- AES: 12" min – 36" max
- Aerofin: 6" min - 36" max
- GeoMat: 6" min – 24" max

Read permit conditions of approval!

- Installation depth
  - Max or min
- Proprietary system minimums (AES pipe or AeroFin conduit length, # of Eljen units)
- Capping fill requirements i.e., cap must be constructed first
- Technical allowances
- Engineer design reference
- System Type!!!!!(next slide)

PERMIT-Subsurface Sewage Disposal

Public Health
Idaho Public Health Districts

EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH
1250 HOLLIPARK DRIVE
IDAHO FALLS ID 83401
(208) 523-5382

Permit # : 1022064
Date : 05/17/2022
Parcel # : RPG00000011349

Applicant's Name: [redacted]
Owners Name: [redacted]
Property Address: 3032 Swan Valley Hwy Swan Valley ID 83449
Legal Description: Township 1N Range 43E Section 1
Subdivision: na Lot na Block na Size(acres): 2.5

Type of Installation	Type of System (check all that apply)			Water Supply
☐ Tank Only	☐ Absorption Bed	☐ Gravelless Drainfield	☐ Pressurized DF	
☒ New System	☒ Capping Fill	☐ Gray Water Sump	☐ Recirculating GF	☒ Private
☐ Expansion	☐ Central System	☐ Gray Water System	☐ RV Dump Station	☐ Shared
☐ Repair	☐ Composting Toilet	☐ Holding Tank	☐ Sand Mound	☐ Public
☐ LSAS Repair	☐ Drip Distribution	☐ Incinerator Toilet	☐ Seepage Pit	
☐ LSAS New	☐ ETPS	☐ Individual Lagoon	☐ Steep Slope Drainfield	Water Source
	☐ Experimental	☐ Intermittent SF	☐ Two Cell Lagoon	
☐ Basic System	☐ Extra Drainrock	☐ Intrench SF	☐ Vault Privy	☒ Well
☒ Complex System	☐ Evapotranspiration	☐ Tank Only	☒ Other (see below)	☐ Spring
	☐ Gravel Drainfield	☐ Pit Privy		

Conditions of Approval:

Presby Environmental (Advanced Enviro-Septic)
Inspection required before cover
48 Hours advanced notice required for inspection
Maximum depth of excavation is 24 inches.
Cap to be installed before drainfield is installed.
System to be installed per the Idaho Presby Installation Manual and Rick Rumsey eng. design dated 1-27-2022.
A 10% technical allowance is given to allow for surface water setbacks of 180 feet and a ditch setback of 45 feet.

☒ Residential permit	3	Bedrooms
	250	Gallons Per Day
☐ Non-residential permit		Gallons Per Day
Soil Type:	B-1	USDA
The minimum septic tank capacity is:	1000	Gallons
The minimum effective drainfield absorption area is:	417	Square Feet
The drainfeld can be no closer to permanent/intermittent surface water than:	180	Feet

Note: Final approval of this permit requires inspection of the uncovered system.

See page 2 for additional terms and conditions.

EHS Signature

05/17/2022
Date Issued

Revision Date 03/05/2021

DO NOT INSTALL ANY SYSTEM OTHER THAN WHAT THE PERMIT IS WRITTEN FOR!

- If permit is written for an AeroFinn, DO NOT install an Eljen!
- If permit is written for a gravel/gravelless drainfield, that means a trench NOT a bed!
  - The permit must specify BED and specific reasons why
- If there is no technical allowance written on the permit, DO NOT take a technical allowance

CALL INSPECTOR TO DISCUSS

TECHNICAL ALLOWANCE
IDAPA 58.01.03.010.01

- EHS may allow a minor technical allowance to dimensional or construction requirements if:
  - Will not affect a neighbor's property (can't be closer to neigbor's well)
  - Will not be in conflict with any other rule or regulation
  - No more than 10% of the dimensional requirement
- Rarely allowed on new construction
- Not to be given just because system was installed incorrectly
- Exact allowance must be discussed/determined beforehand
- Call EHS if you might **need** (not want) an allowance

Bed drainfield – only install if allowed on permit!

- **Per (IDAPA 58.01.03.008.10)**
  - A bed is only allowed if trenches will not fit
- Can't be combined with extra drainrock
- No reduction allowed if using domes
- Sized differently for each proprietary system

PERMIT-Subsurface Sewage Disposal

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Idaho Public Health Districts

EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH
1250 HOLLIPARK DRIVE
IDAHO FALLS ID 83401
(208) 523-5382

Permit # : 1022076
Date : 06/06/2022
Parcel # : RP03N38E276433

Applicant's Name: Daniel Kenner
Owners Name: Daniel Kenner
Property Address: 6596 N 25th E Idaho Falls ID 83401
Legal Description: Township 3N Range 38E Section 27
Subdivision: na Lot na Block na Size(acres): 5.0

Type of Installation	Type of System (check all that apply)			Water Supp
☐ Tank Only	☒ Absorption Bed	☐ Gravelless Drainfield	☐ Pressurized DF	
☐ New System	☐ Capping Fill	☐ Gray Water Sump	☐ Recirculating GF	☒ Private
☐ Expansion	☐ Central System	☐ Gray Water System	☐ RV Dump Station	☐ Shared
☒ Repair	☐ Composting Toilet	☐ Holding Tank	☐ Sand Mound	☐ Public
☐ LSAS Repair	☐ Drip Distribution	☐ Incinerator Toilet	☐ Seepage Pit	
☐ LSAS New	☐ ETPS	☐ Individual Lagoon	☐ Steep Slope Drainfield	Water Sour
	☐ Experimental	☐ Intermittent SF	☐ Two Cell Lagoon	
☒ Basic System	☐ Extra Drainrock	☐ Intrench SF	☐ Vault Privy	☒ Well
☐ Complex System	☐ Evapotranspiration	☐ Tank Only	☐ Other (see below)	☐ Spring
	☒ Gravel Drainfield	☐ Pit Privy		

Conditions of Approval:
Inspection required before cover
48 Hours advanced notice required for inspection
Maximum depth of excavation is 4 feet.

☒ Residential permit	5	Bedrooms
	350	Gallons Per D
☐ Non-residential permit		Gallons Per D
Soil Type:	B-2	USDA
The minimum septic tank capacity is:	1250	Gallons
The minimum effective drainfield absorption area is:	778	Square Feet
The drainfeld can be no closer to permanent/intermittent surface water than:	200	Feet

Note: Final approval of this permit requires inspection of the uncovered system.

FOLLOW THE PERMIT
or
SUBMIT A PERMIT AMENDMENT REQUEST

- If the homeowner or contractor wants you to install something other than what the permit is written for, educate them on the process and
- There are no guarantees that the permit can be changed

DRAINFIELD REPLACEMENT AREA

- IDAPA 58.01.03.008.02c states, ”The size of an acceptable site must be large enough to construct two (2) complete drainfields in which each are sized to receive one hundred percent (100%) of the design wastewater flow.”

DRAINFIELD REPLACEMENT AREA CONT.

- When installing the primary drainfield, be sure there is enough room for the secondary drainfield
- Plan ahead!
- Review the approved plot plan
- Discuss with homeowner or contractor
- Keep primary drainfield higher if possible
- If necessary, the replacement area site could be pumped to

Don’t spread trenches out and compromise the replacement area in order to save trees

IS THERE ROOM FOR THE REPLACEMENT DRIANFIELD?

TREES MIGHT HAVE TO BE REMOVED

VERIFY WELL LOCATIONS

- Existing well on owners' property
- Where is proposed well site if new construction (refer to plot plan)
- Neighbors' wells
- Public water system wells (PWS wells)and waterlines

REQUIRED SETBACKS TO A PRIVATE WELL AND WATER LINE

- Drainfield (and replacement area) must be 100 feet from a private **well**
- Septic tank must be 50 feet from private **well**
- Drainfield must be 25 feet from a private **water line**
- Septic tank and effluent line must be 10 feet from a private **water line**

REQUIRED SETBACKS TO A PUBLIC WELL AND WATER LINE

- Drainfield (and replacement area) must be 100 feet from a public **well**
- Septic tank must be **100** feet from public **well**
- Drainfield must be 25 feet from a public **water line**
- Septic tank and effluent line must be **25** feet from a public **water line**

Wells can hide

Short well casing in tall grass

Sometimes we find other things when looking for a well!

Wells can be in a pit/vault

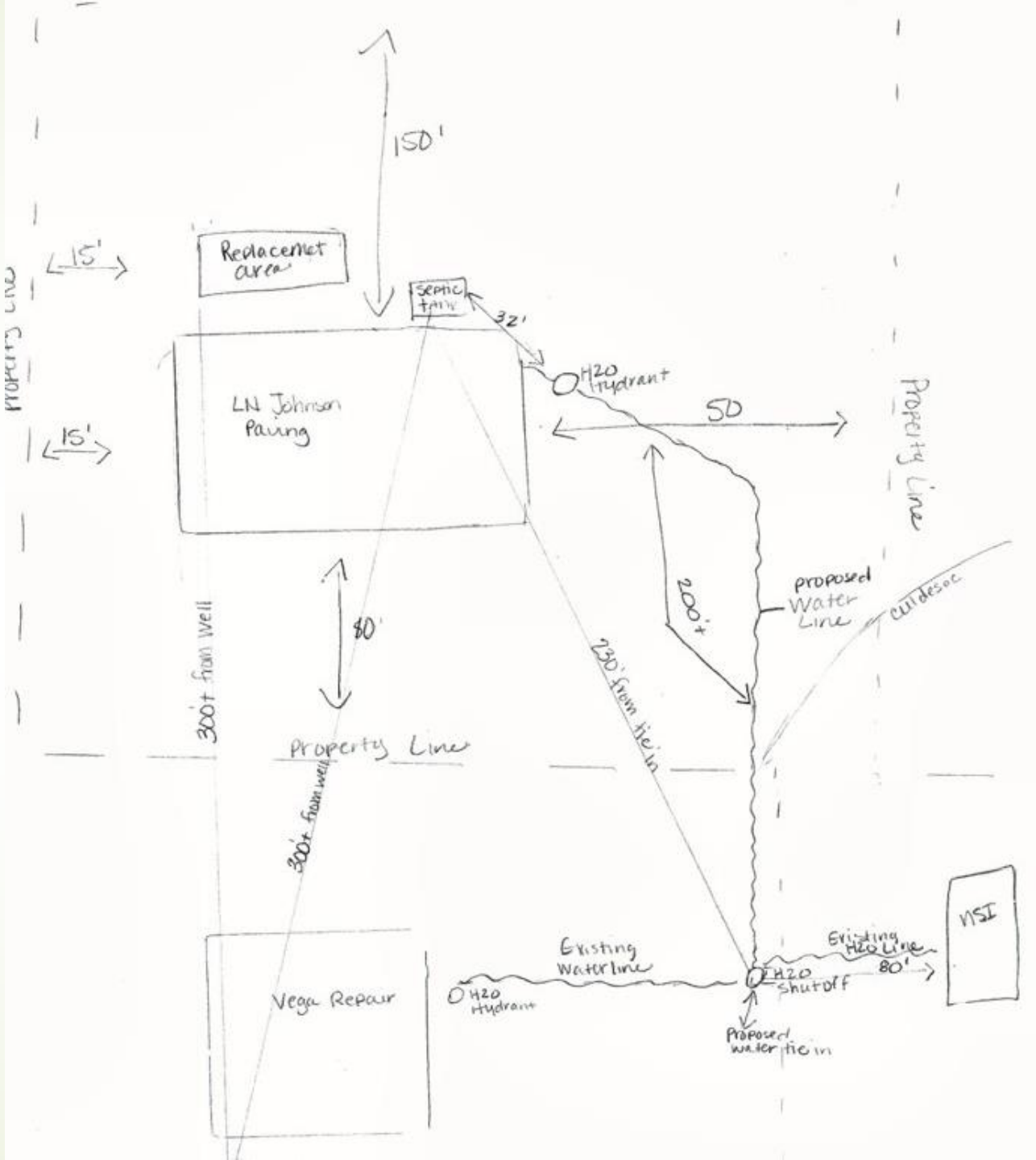
Wells can also be located in a well house (public or private)

VERIFY WATERLINE LOCATIONS: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

Public waterline maps might be available
Waterlines are usually located in the road but may run in an easement between lots

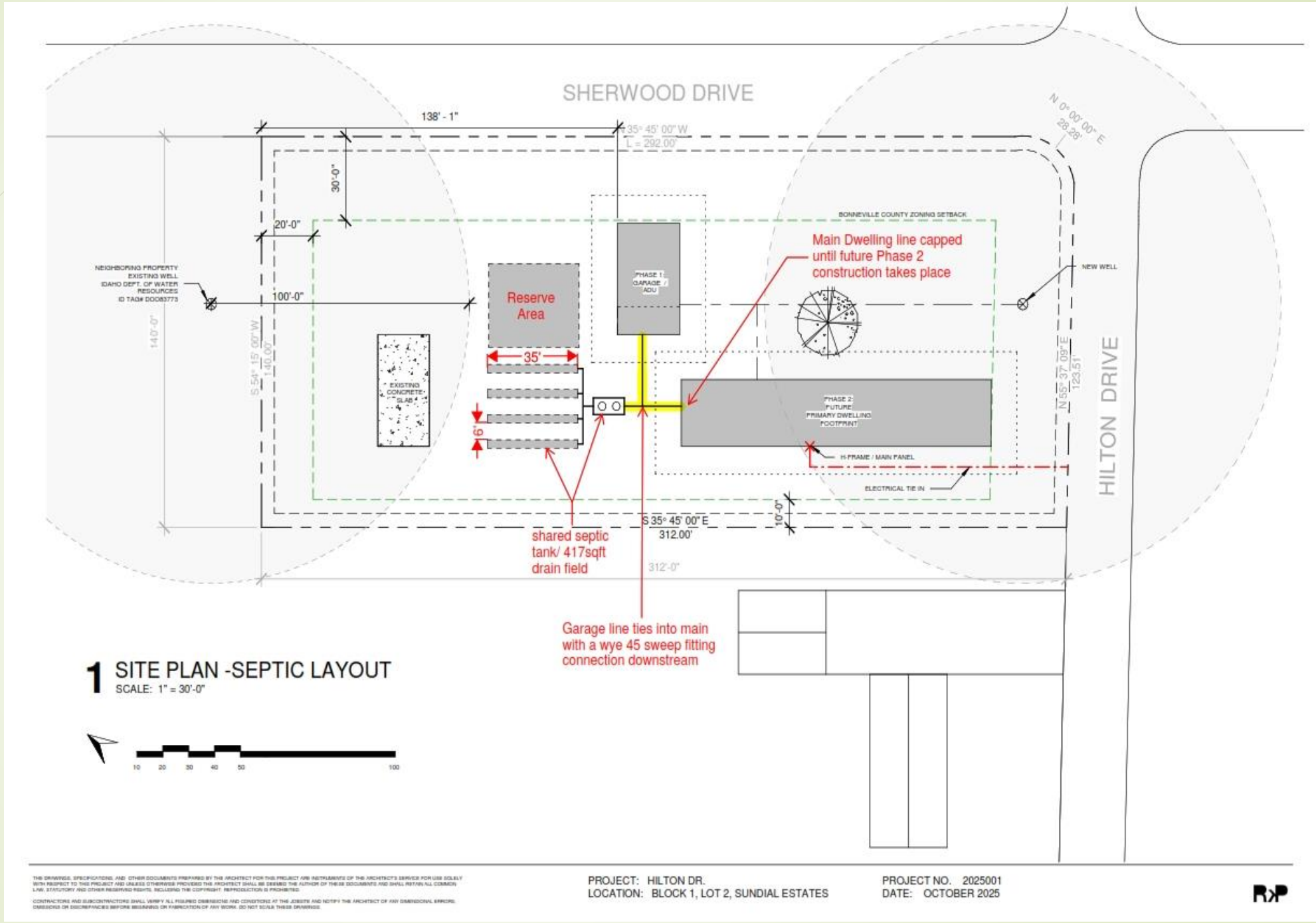
Plot plan needs to include well and waterline locations

- DIMENSIONALLY ACCURATE!



Well radius 2

Drainfield dimensions

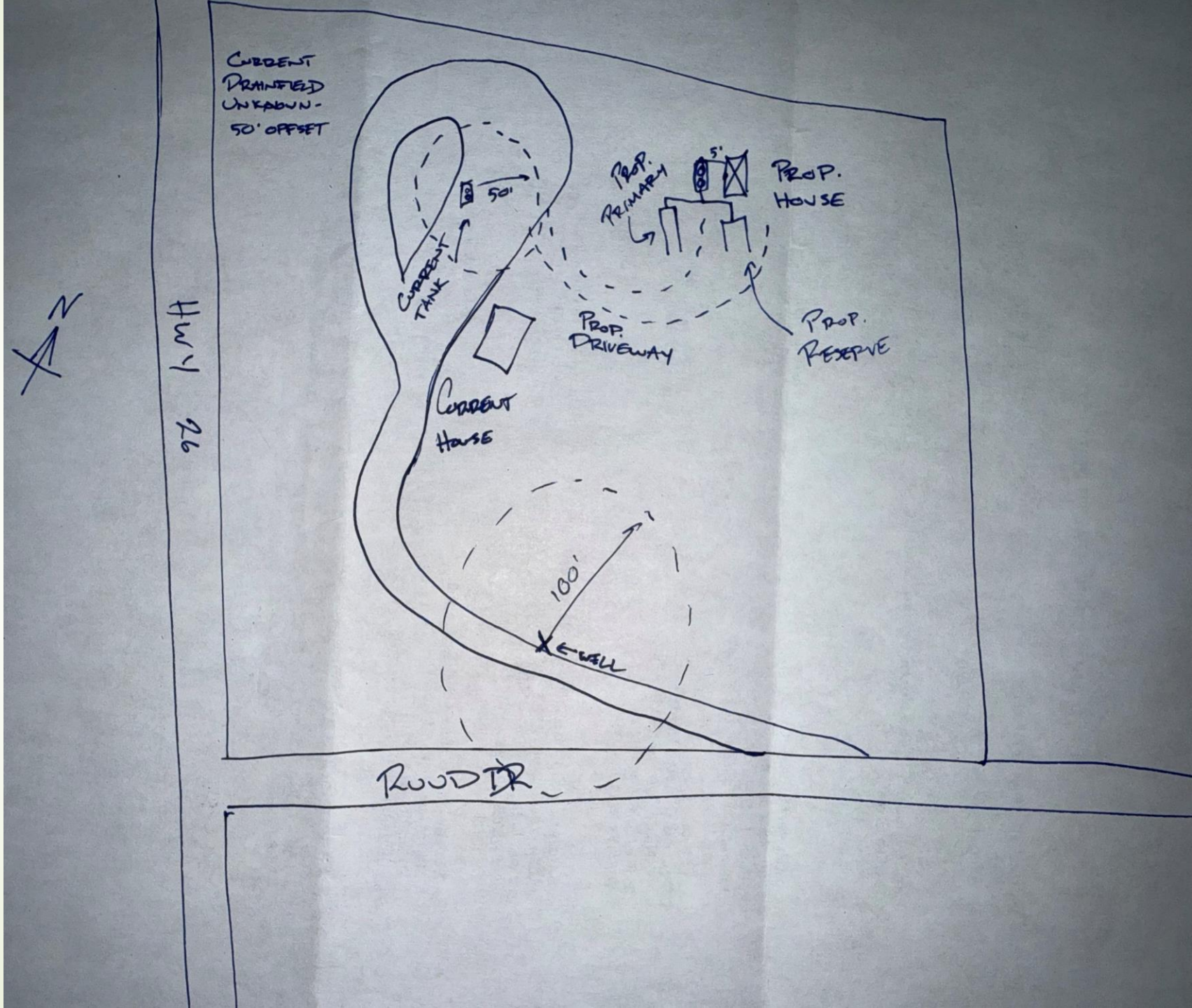


Not dimensionally accurate

Well?

Drainfields?

Driveway?



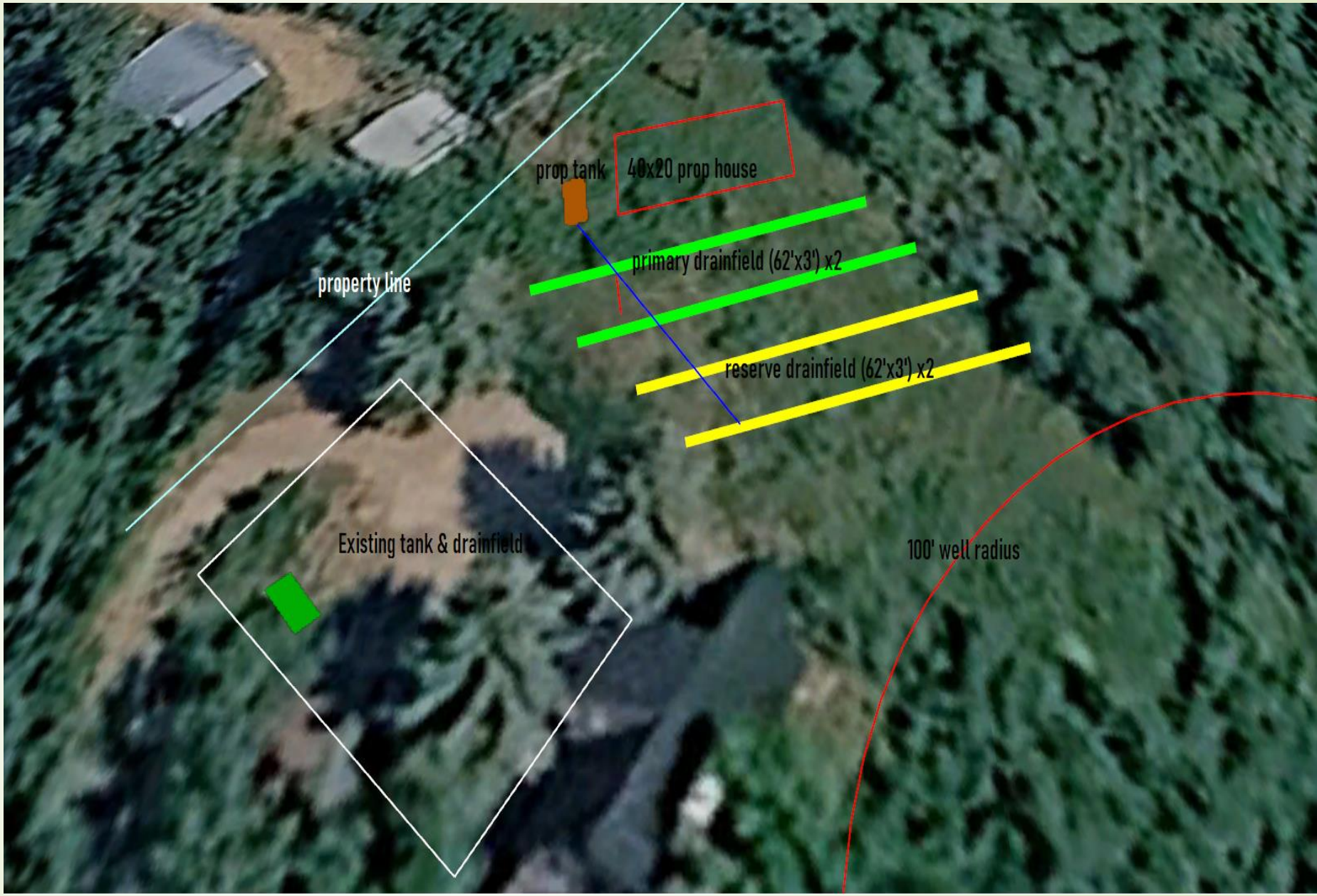
Better

Accurate well radius

Drainfields oriented down slope

Drainfields oriented across slope

No driveway



Multiple Residence Septic System Sizing

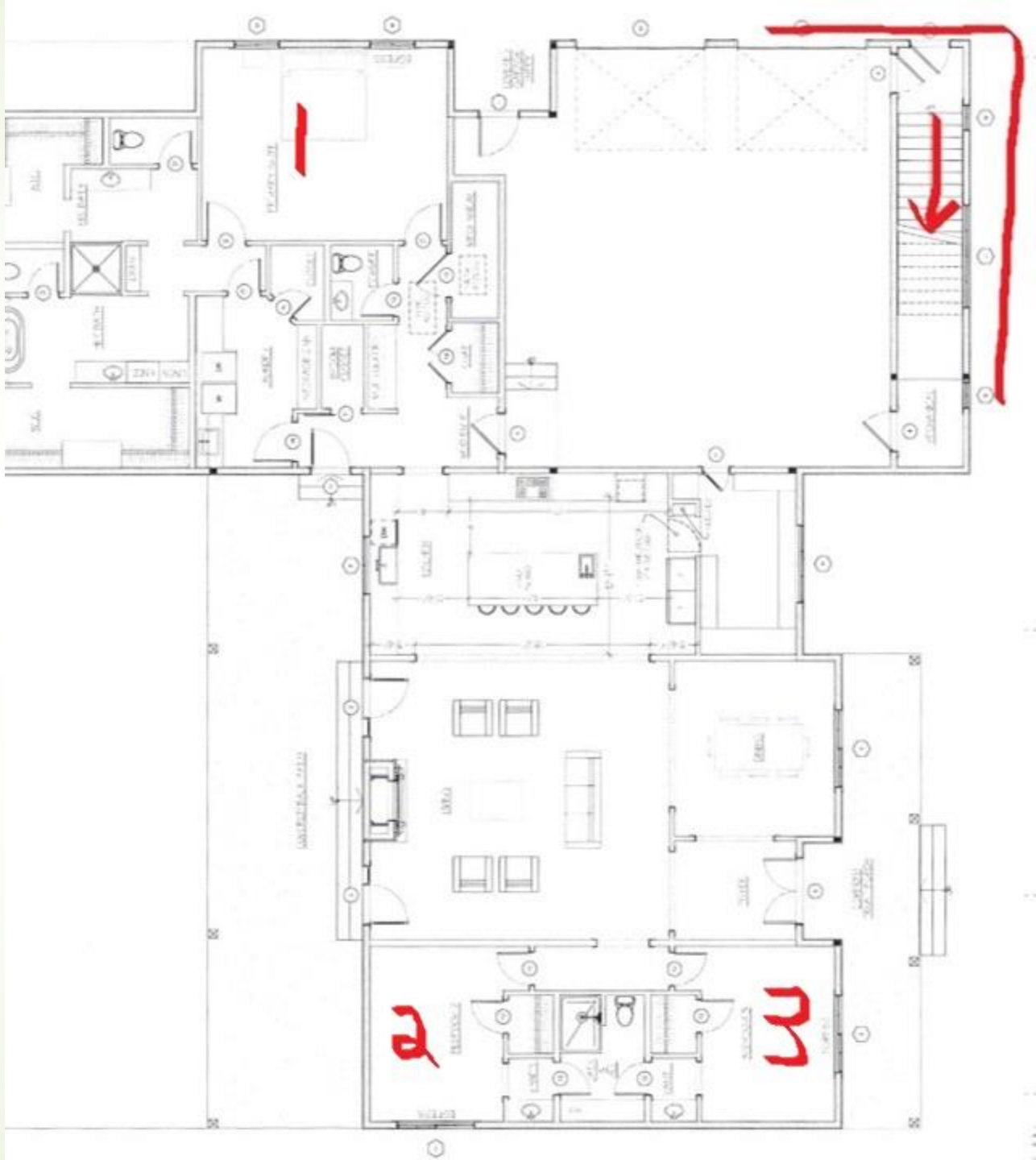
- Septic system (tank and drainfield) sized based on # of bedrooms
  - This is per dwelling unit (**attached or detached**)
  - Example: 2-bedroom home = 200 GPD and a 1000-gallon tank
  - Example: 3-bed room home = 250 GPD and a 1000-gallon tank

Floor plans

- 3-bedroom house

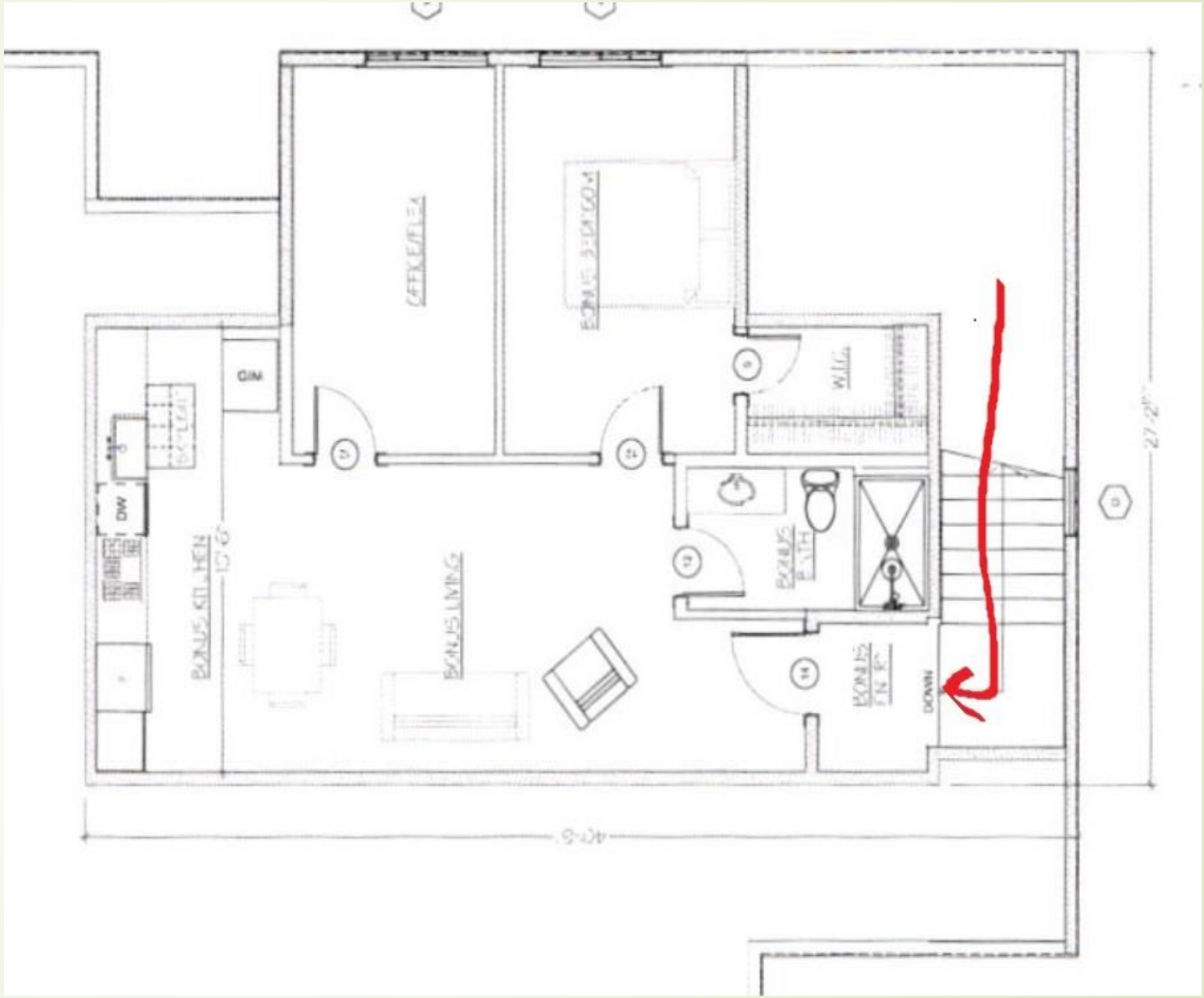
BUT

- Notice the separate entrance to the two bedrooms upstairs



Separate dwelling unit upstairs

- Separate entrance
- Additional kitchen
- 2 bedrooms
- Living room



Multiple Residence Septic System Sizing Cont.

- Combined ww flow 200gpd(2-bed)+250gpd(3-bed)=450GPD
- Combined tank size 1000(3-bed)+1000(2-bed)=2000 gallons

so

- One (5-bed home) = 350GPD and 1250-gallon tank
- Two homes 3+2 (5-bed total) = 450GPD and 2000-gallon tank

PERMIT DIFFERENCES

- 3+1 = Means there is a 3-bedroom house and a 1-bedroom house:
- 250+150=400GPD
- Notice the 2000-gallon tank: Usually 2 1000-gallon tanks are installed in series

PERMIT-Subsurface Sewage Disposal

Public Health
Idaho Public Health Districts

EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH
1250 HOLLIPARK DRIVE
IDAHO FALLS ID 83401
(208) 523-5382

Permit # : 4126009
Date : 02/10/2026
Parcel # : RP001220000070

Applicant's Name: Everett Building
Owners Name: David Bergart
Property Address: 8545 Flint Dr Victor ID 83455
Legal Description: Township 3N Range 45E Section 12
Subdivision: Sweet Canyon Acres Lot 7 Block Size(acres): 4.0

Type of Installation	Type of System (check all that apply)			Water Supply
☐ Tank Only	☐ Absorption Bed	☒ Gravelless Drainfield	☐ Pressurized DF	
☒ New System	☐ Capping Fill	☐ Gray Water Sump	☐ Recirculating GF	☒ Private
☐ Expansion	☐ Central System	☐ Gray Water System	☐ RV Dump Station	☐ Shared
☐ Repair	☐ Composting Toilet	☐ Holding Tank	☐ Sand Mound	☐ Public
☐ LSAS Repair	☐ Drip Distribution	☐ Incinerator Toilet	☐ Seepage Pit	
☐ LSAS New	☐ ETPS	☐ Individual Lagoon	☐ Steep Slope Drainfield	Water Source
	☐ Experimental	☐ Intermittent SF	☐ Two Cell Lagoon	
☒ Basic System	☐ Extra Drainrock	☐ Intrench SF	☐ Vault Privy	☒ Well
☐ Complex System	☐ Evapotranspiration	☐ Tank Only	☐ Other (see below)	☐ Spring
	☒ Gravel Drainfield	☐ Pit Privy		

Conditions of Approval:
Inspection required before cover
48 Hours advanced notice required for inspection
Maximum depth of excavation 4 ft
Per IDAPA 58.01.03.007.14 For all tanks, a manhole must extend to ground surface from the manhole above the inlet or any compartment that contains an individual component (i.e.. pump, effluent filter, etc.)

☒ Residential permit	3+1	Bedrooms
	400	Gallons Per Day
☐ Non-residential permit		Gallons Per Day
Soil Type:	A-2a	USDA
The minimum septic tank capacity is:	2000	Gallons
The minimum effective drainfield absorption area is:	667	Square Feet
The drainfeld can be no closer to permanent/intermittent surface water than:	200	Feet

Note: Final approval of this permit requires inspection of the uncovered system.

See page 2 for additional terms and conditions.

EHS Signature
02/10/2026
Date Issued

Revision Date 03/05/2021

Misc. items

- No additional square footage given for endcaps on domes
- No cutting or drilling holes in the side of precast or plastic tanks
  - Only use approved inlet/outlet hole locations
- Follow engineer design AND permit requirements

LSAS tank only inspections

- EIPH must inspect septic tank AND effluent line from tank to street/stub connection
- Example: Pepperwood Crossing in Jefferson Co.

Thank You

for your quality work

- Homeowner install 😟