



# Health and Community Services

Cynthia Foley

Council Initiated:

Yes

No

**ECAF:** 2024-2803  
**Ordinance:** 24-099

**Type:**

- Contract
- Board Appt.
- Code Amendment
- Budget Action
- Other

**Requested Handling:**

- Normal
- Expedite
- Urgent

**Fund Source:**

- General Fund
- Other
- N/A

**Executive Rec:**

- Approve
- Do Not Approve
- N/A

**Approved as to**

**Form:**

- Yes
- No
- N/A

**Subject:** Agreement with Washington State Department of Ecology for Savvy Septic Program

**Scope:** The interlocal agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology provides Snohomish County with \$500,000 in revenue the Savvy Septic program to be used for the following purposes:

- **\$8,640 for Grant and Loan Administration** - Loans and grants will be administered in compliance with procurement, permitting, interlocal agreement requirements.
- **\$5,760 for Program Administration** – Review of funding applications, maintenance of eligibility criteria, and technical assistance in septic system project design.
- **\$73,600 for Program Outreach** - Market the program to on-site septic system (OSS) owners county-wide, with a concentration on high priority areas, such as those with documented older OSS and proximity to impaired water bodies.
- **\$327,600 for OSS Repair and Replacement Grants** – Provide grants to low-income homeowners for OSS repair or replacement with a cap of \$30,000 for projects.
- **\$84,400 for OSS Maintenance and Repair** - Help homeowners with the cost of OSS maintenance, such as pumping, inspections, riser installation, and minor repairs.

**Duration:** October 10, 2024, through September 30, 2027

**Fiscal Impact:**  Current Year  Multi-Year  N/A

Expenditures	Current Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0

Revenue	Current Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
Fund 125	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$150,000			\$500,000
Totals	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$150,000	0	0	\$500,000

**Authority Granted:** Ordinance 24-099 authorizes the County Executive, or designee, to execute the agreement between Snohomish County and the State of Washington Department of Ecology for Savvy Septic Program.

**Background:** In April of 2015, Snohomish County launched Savvy Septic, a Clean Water Financing Program to help address the chronic problem of failing on-site septic systems (OSS). The Savvy Septic Program in Snohomish County aims to empower residential OSS

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owners to engage in a collective Puget Sound water quality solution through outreach, education, and financial aid for OSS maintenance, repair, and replacement.

There are approximately 67,279 OSS in Snohomish County, and of these systems, approximately 350 fail and require repairs yearly. Approximately 75% of Snohomish County's septic systems are 25 years old or older and many are near bodies of water.

**Requested Action:** Move Ordinance 24-099 to GLS agenda to set time and date for a Public Hearing.