# Applying Kitsap Public Health's Pollution Identification and Correction Methods for the Restoration & Protection of Shellfish Growing areas

Eva Crim, MPH, RS
Environmental Health Specialist
Water Pollution Identification & Correction
Program



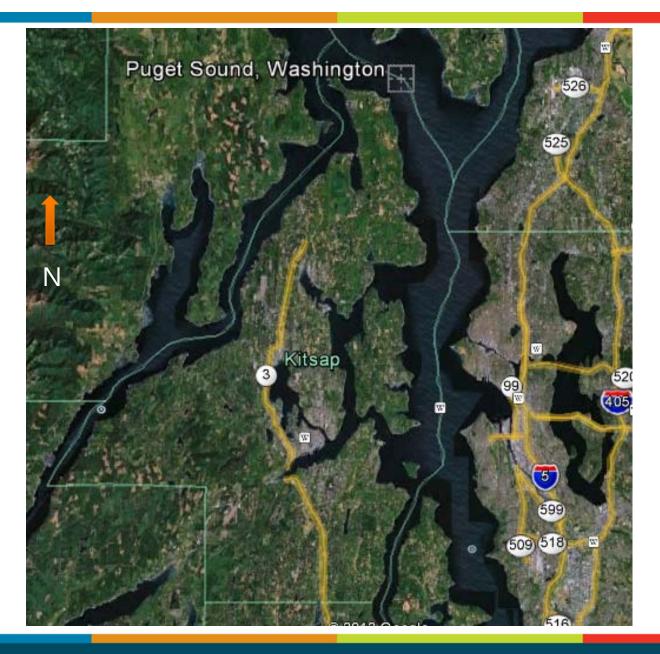
# Kitsap County, Washington

- Population: 251,133
- Land area: 396 sq miles
- Population density: 635 / sq.miles
- Number of households: 97,220
- Estimated # Onsite septic systems: 58,000
- Total miles of shoreline 228
- Miles of shellfish classified shoreline 144











- Assess Kitsap County surface waters for fecal bacteria pollution
- Prioritize & Implement cleanup efforts
- Evaluate the results

- The foundation of Kitsap Public Health's PIC program is a county-wide trend monitoring program that annually assesses:
  - 120 stations in 58 streams
  - 65 stations in 12 marine waters
  - 24 stations on 17 lakes

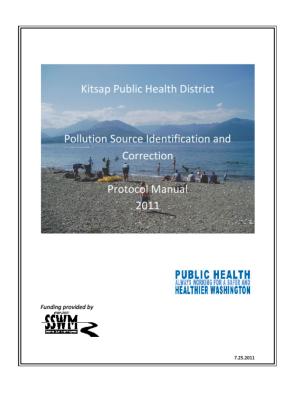


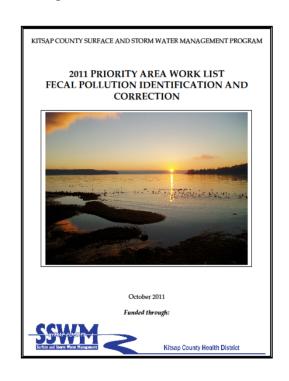




- Water quality problem areas are prioritized for clean up on an annual basis and reported in a Priority Area Work List. The primary factors considered for prioritization include:
  - Fecal coliform (FC) levels
  - Shellfish harvest impacts
  - > Total Maximum Daily Load Studies
  - Public Health Advisories

#### Standard procedures used for implementation





PIC Protocol and Priority List



#### Funding provided by

- Kitsap County Surface and Storm water Management Program
- Washington State Department of Health
- Washington State Department of Ecology
- US Environmental Protection Agency











# PIC Methodology

 PIC utilizes an innovative "door-to-door" site visit process, public education & water quality monitoring to locate fecal (FC) pollution sources.







 FC sources are generally corrected voluntarily by the property owner. However, local on-site sewage and solid waste regulations are used to enforce correction when necessary.

# Sources of Bacteria













In 2010 Kitsap Public Health received a Puget Sound Watershed Management Assistance Grant from US EPA Region 10 to conduct the Shellfish Restoration and Protection Project.



The Goals for this project are to <u>restore</u> & <u>protect</u> water quality of both fresh and marine waters of Kitsap County by correcting sources of fecal pollution that impact shellfish growing areas and pose a threat to public health.

#### **Objectives:**

- 1. Implement a routine shoreline monitoring program that locates fecal "hot spots" affecting "Prohibited" and "Approved" shellfish growing areas around Kitsap County.
- 2. Provide education to residents regarding onsite septic systems and sustainable land use practices that can restore or protect surface waters that drain into shellfish growing areas.

#### **Objectives:**

- 3. To ensure correction of failing onsite sewage systems by providing financial assistance to qualified Kitsap County residents through the Craft 3 Septic Loan Program.
- 4. To connect residents with healthy shellfish growing areas through the establishment of the Port Madison Community Shellfish Farm.

# Shoreline Surveys

- Collect fresh water samples from all flows entering marine waters
- Conduct confirmation sampling to determine "hot spots"
- Initiate source tracking
- Implement corrective action





#### In 2011 EPA grant activities

- Completed 50 shoreline miles (twice, dry/wet)
- Collected approximately 1200 water samples
- Confirmed "hot spots": 49
- OSS failures/repairs; 14 failures, 7 repaired



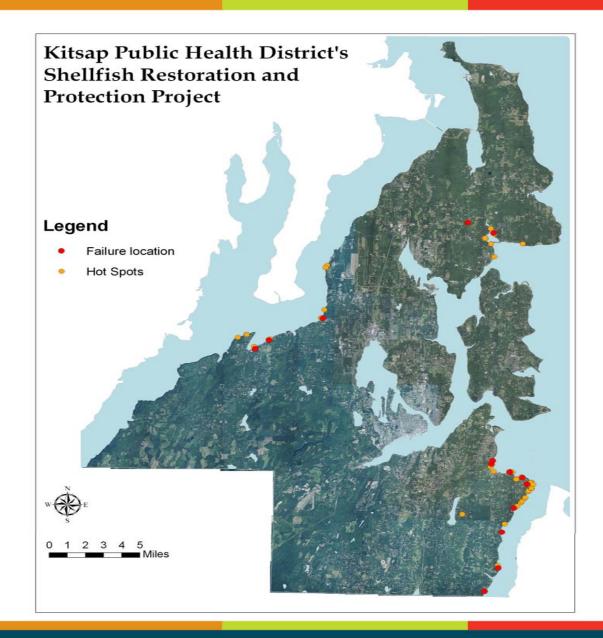
#### In 2012 EPA grant activities

- Completed 80 shoreline miles (wet weather), and will repeat these during dry weather
- Collected approximately 950 water samples
- Confirmed ~ 20 additional "hot spots"

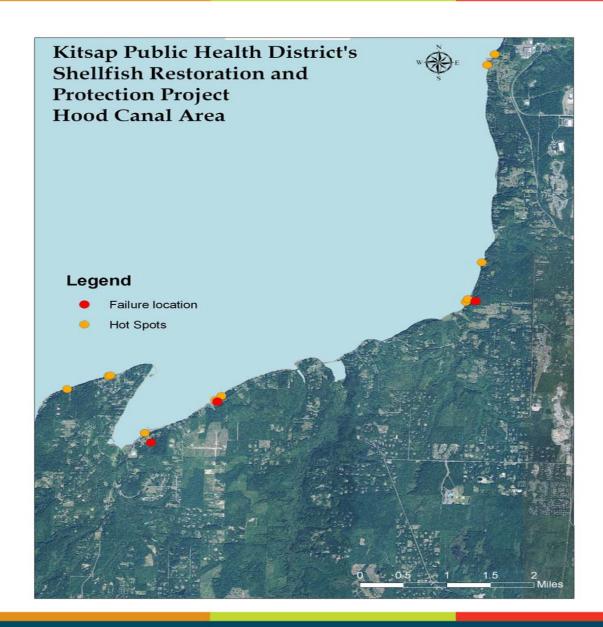
- Source tracking tools:
  - Mapping
  - Impact/segmentation water sampling
  - Onsite sewage records
  - Property site visits
  - Testing for optical brighteners (Fluorometer)
  - Dye tracing



Mapping for "hot spot" investigations



Mapping for "hot spot" investigations



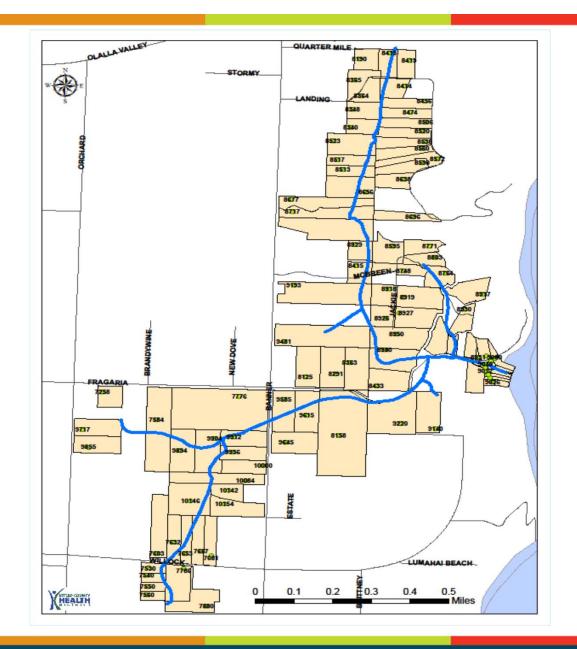


Mapping for "hot spot" investigations



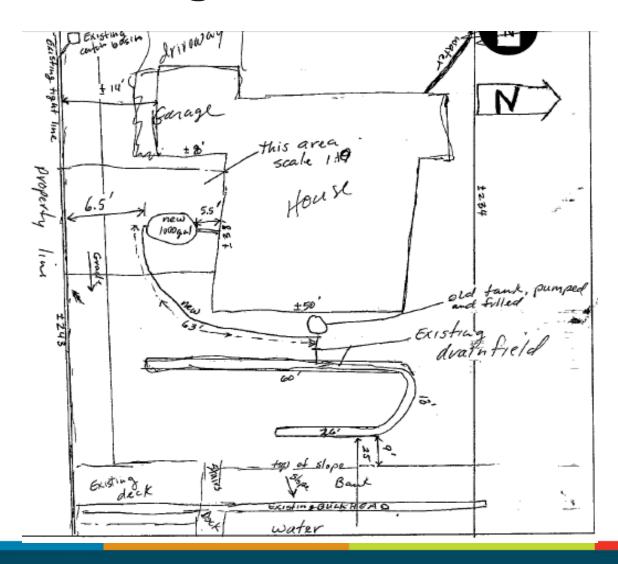


Segmentation of drainages for "hot spot" investigations





# Onsite sewage record



# Dye tracing





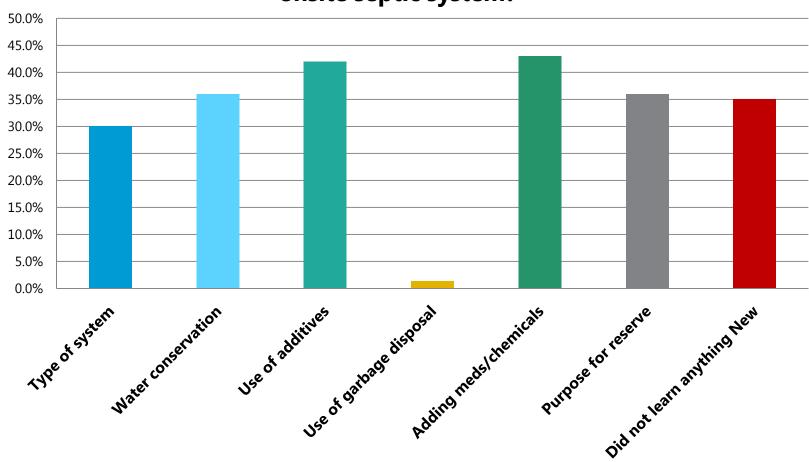


EPA grant activities (Sep 2010-present)

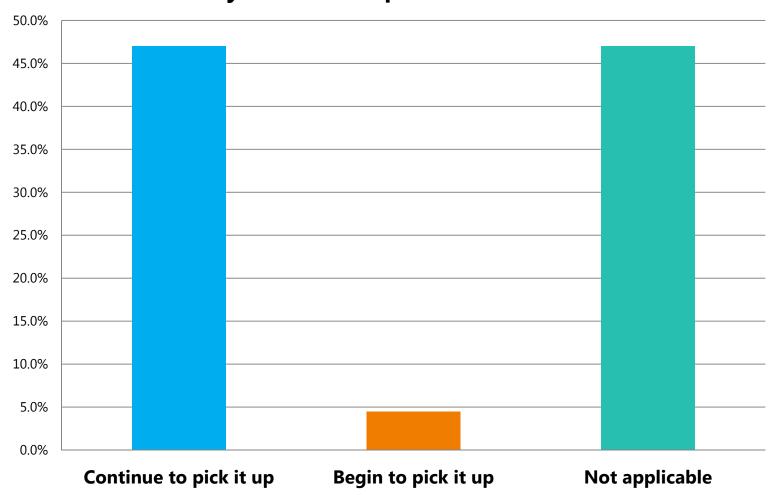
- PIC "door to door" property visits
  - 213 completed
- Follow up postcard survey results
  - 41 % response rate



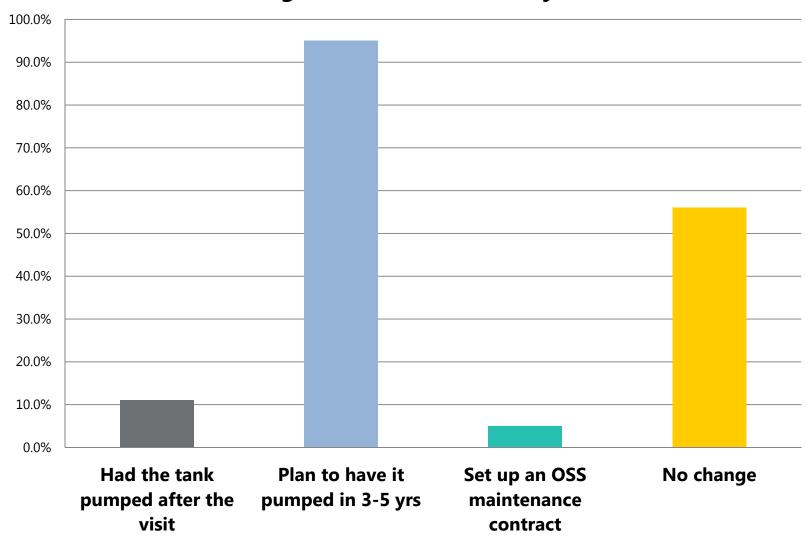
# What did you learn about your onsite septic system?



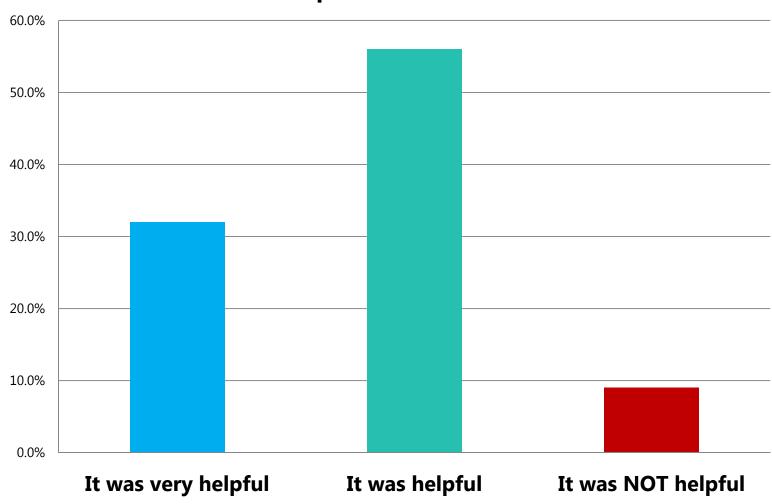
#### What will you do about pet &/or livestock waste?



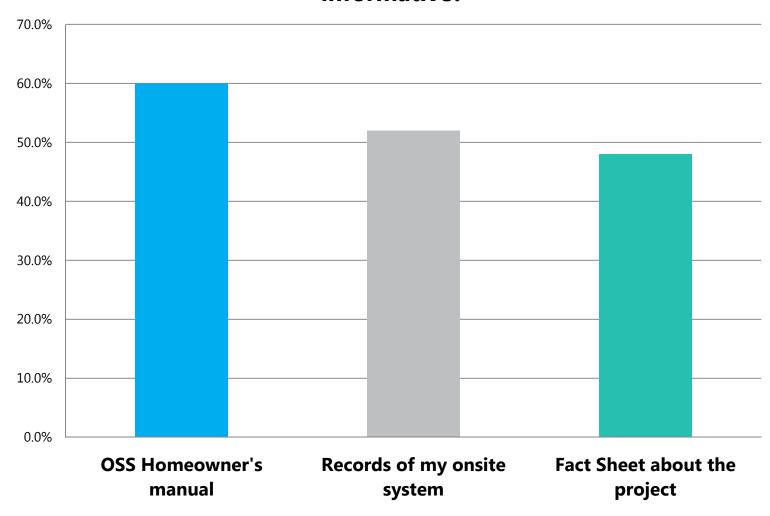
#### What changes/actions taken with your OSS?



#### How helpful was the site visit?



# What materials provided during the visit were informative?





## To wrap up...

- Follow up postcard surveys are providing us with good feedback regarding our site visits
- We would like to expand this in future
- Continue to Plan, Do, Check, Act
- And our success depends upon....

# PIC Program success depends upon..

- Stakeholders/Partners
- Political support
- Stable funding sources
- Standard procedures
- Effective outreach
- Enforcement capability
- Consistent follow-up

AND....



## Our dedicated staff..



# QUESTIONS



