

Septic System Basics

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Why Does It Matter?

Wastewater contains disease-causing organisms - pathogens

- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Protozoans & Metazoans

Even casual contact with water that has been contaminated by human waste can make you very sick!

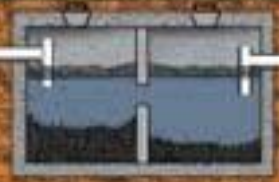
Clostridium, Leptospirosis, E. coli, Campylobacter, Giardia, Schistosomiasis, Cholera, Botulism, Dysentery, Typhoid Fever, Legionellosis, etc.

Plumbing vent



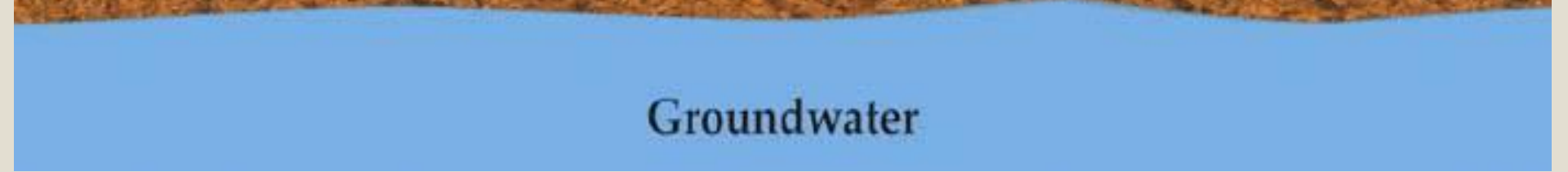
Leachfield/drainfield

Septic tank

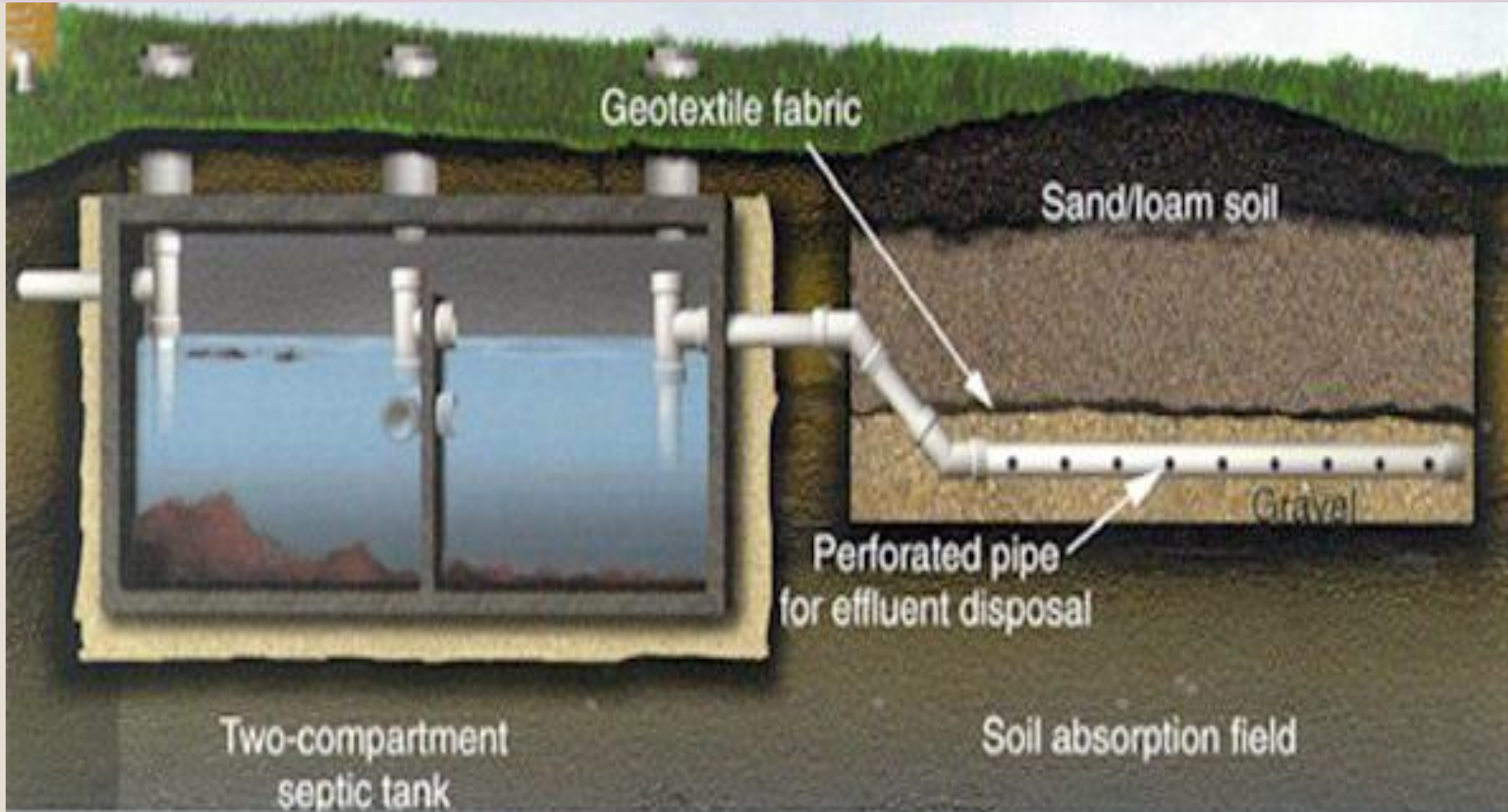


Effluent absorption
and purification

Groundwater



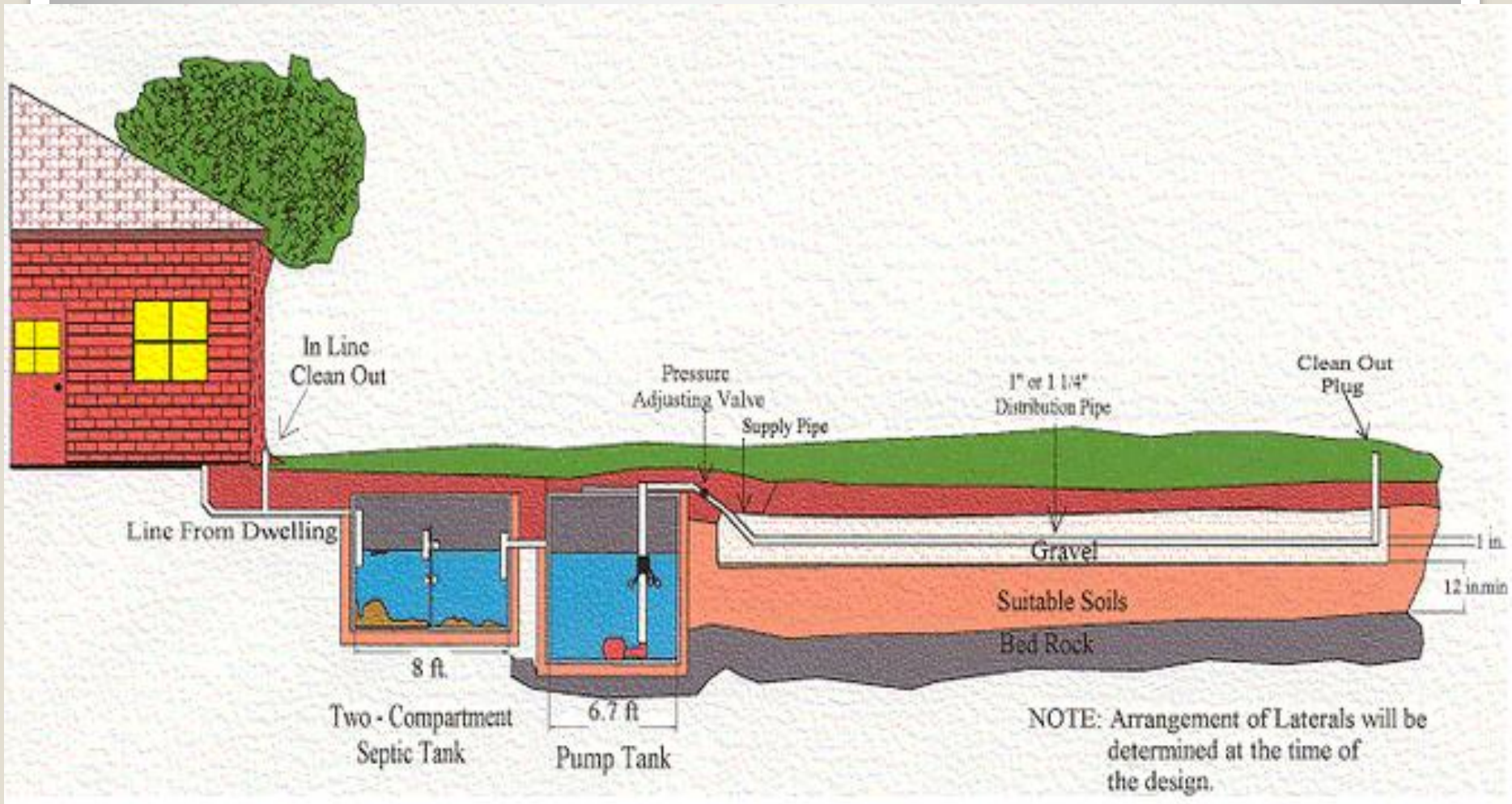
Side view of Septic Tank and Drainfield



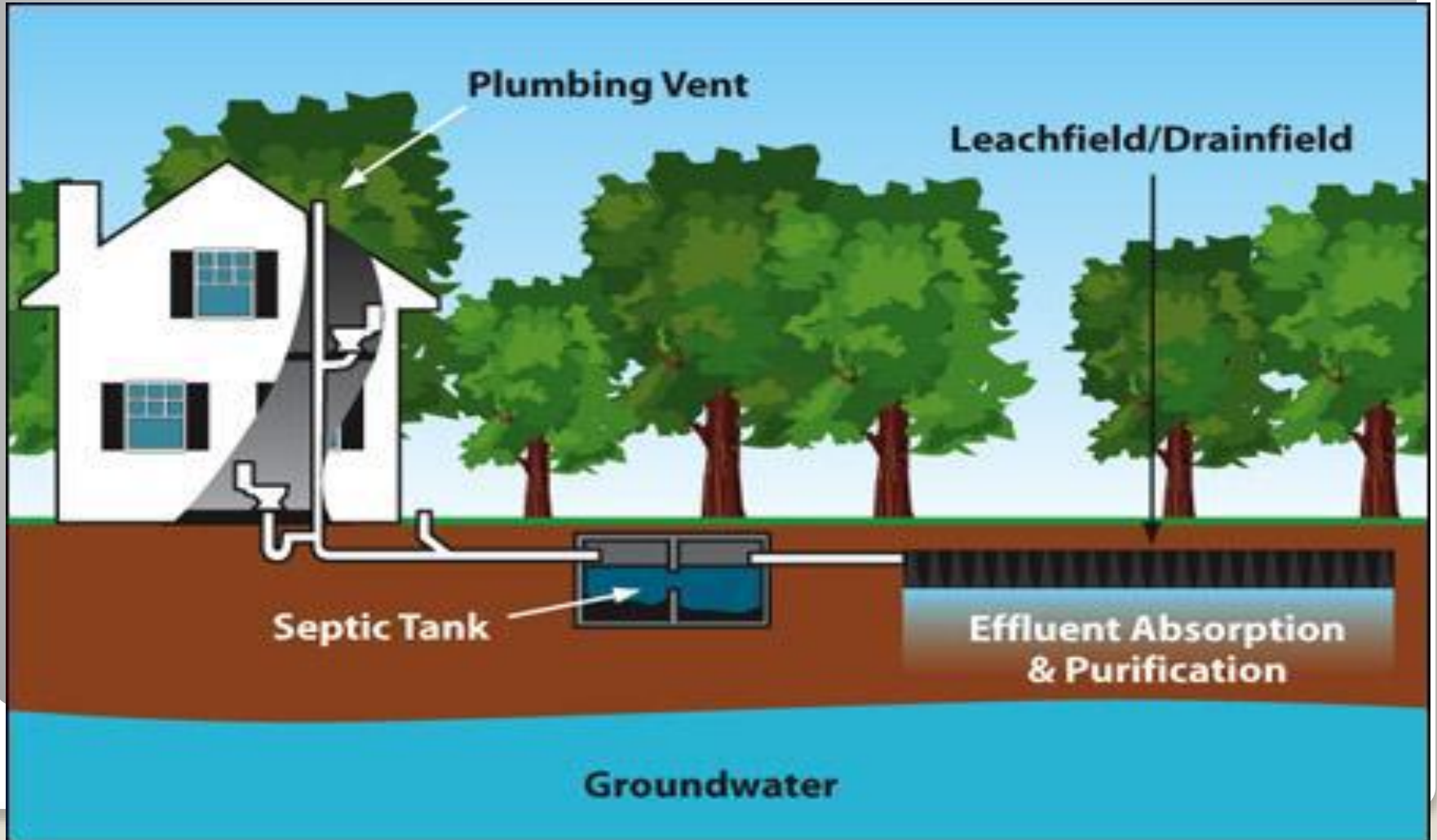
Gravity system with D-box



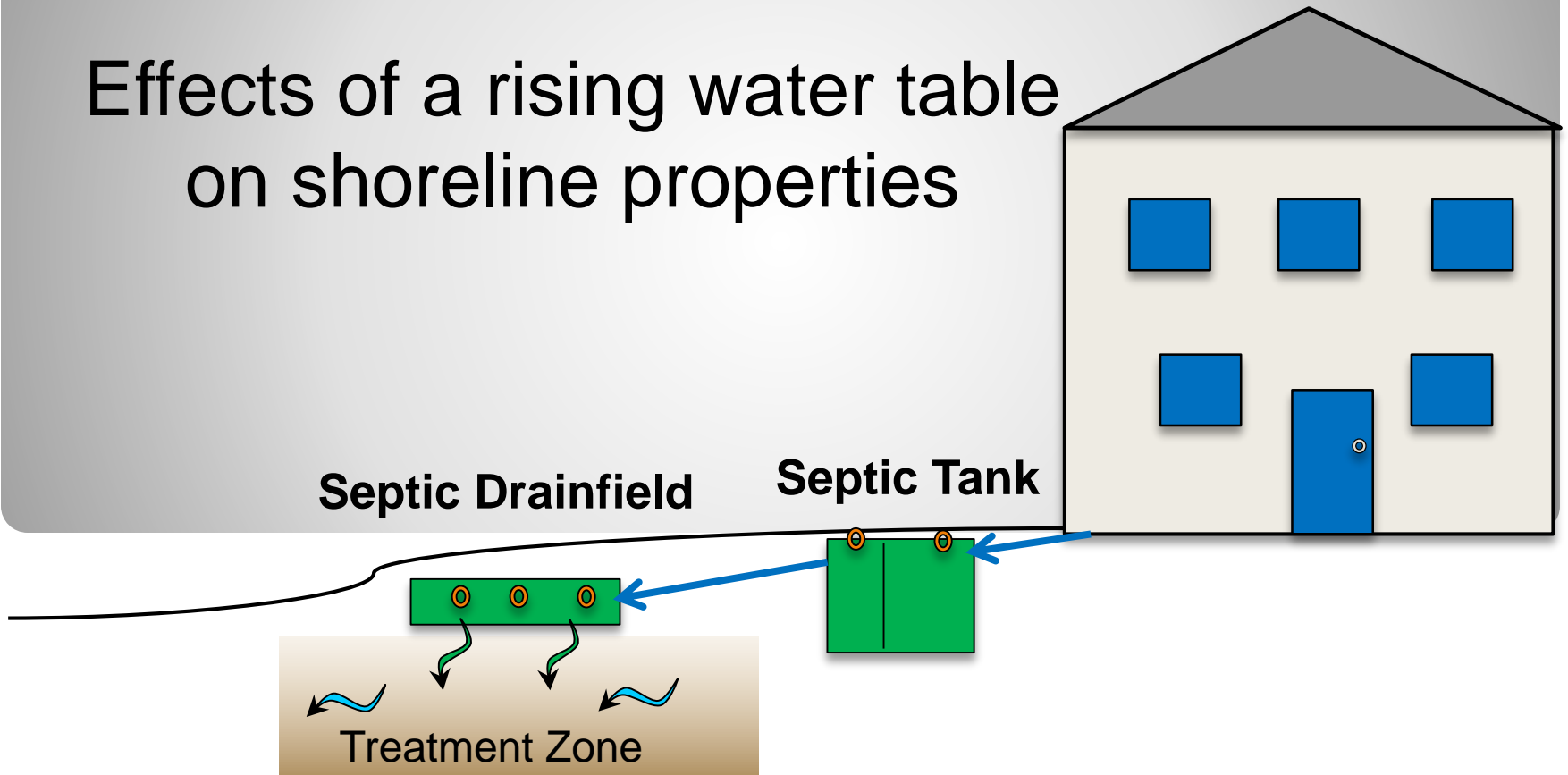
Pump system with pressurized drainfield



Unsaturated soil beneath your drainfield is crucial for proper treatment and drainage.



Effects of a rising water table on shoreline properties

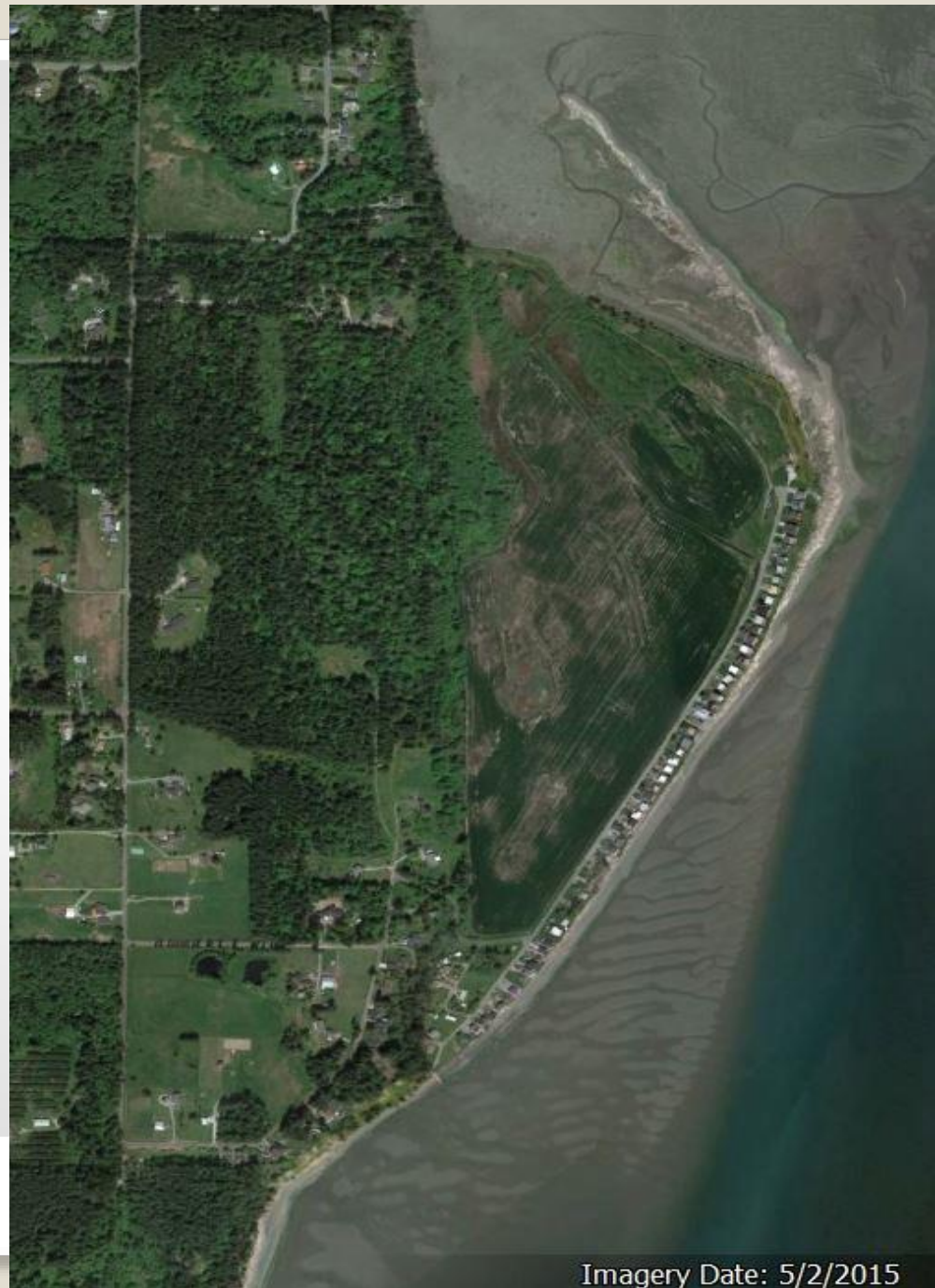


Sea Water Intrusion

- Stressors on shoreline sewage systems
 - Storm surges
 - Erosion undermines or exposes components
 - Damage causes leaking septic tanks
 - Extreme precipitation events
 - Saturates treatment zone from above
 - Sea level rise
 - Decreases treatment zone from below
 - Marine water kills microorganisms in treatment zone

Iverson Spit

- Natural spit enhanced
- Average Elevation: 10 feet
- Elevation of fields: 6-7 feet



Questions?

