



## Public Health Department

### Environmental Health

202 Mira Loma Drive  
Oroville, California 95965

Cathy A. Raevsky, Director  
Mark A. Lundberg, M.D., M.P.H., Health

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## WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

Meeting in Oroville  
Starts at 2 pm

DECEMBER 16, 2015 ❖ 2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.

KLAMATH ROOM ❖ 202 MIRA LOMA DRIVE, OROVILLE

#### I. Preliminary Items

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
- C. Introduction of Guests
- D. Review of Minutes (See Attachment "A")
- E. Agenda Review
- F. Public Comments and Input

#### II. Informational Non-Action Items

- A. Septage Disposal Update
- B. LAMP Update and Future Work Needed

#### III. Action Items

- A. Proposed Changes to Ordinance and Manual (See Attachment "B")  
*Review changes and make recommendations*

#### IV. Agenda Preparation for Next Meeting

#### V. Adjourn



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# Attachment One

## WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

# MINUTES

OCTOBER 6, 2015

TAHOE ROOM \*\* 202 MIRA LOMA DRIVE, OROVILLE

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### I. Preliminary Items

#### A. Call to Order

Nick called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

#### B. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum (See Attachment One)

Nick Weigel, Buddy Nottingham, Rick McCauley, Wes Gilbert, Lauralyn Lambert, and Will Arnold, were present.

Jan Hill, DC Jones, Brian Cobb (primary), Priscilla Rawlings (alternate), and Doug Flesher (alternate) were absent.

A quorum was established.

#### C. Introduction of Guests

Robert Perkins attended as a guest. Brad Banner, Christine Greiten, Darren Jones, and Kristen McKillop attended the meeting on behalf of the Public Health Department.

#### D. Review of Minutes

Rick made a motion to accept the February 17 minutes as written. Will seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### E. Agenda Review

No changes to the agenda were requested.

#### F. Public Comments and Input

There was no public comment.

### II. Informational Non-Action Items

#### A. Local Area Management Program (LAMP) Update



## Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -2-

Brad distributed copies of the Tier 2 criteria in the State Water Resources Control Board's *Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems* for justifying the Butte County onsite wastewater program as an acceptable LAMP. The committee discussed the best approach to addressing the 2 foot minimum vertical separation requirement found in the state's policy. (See Attachment Two)

### B. OM&M Report Form Update

Brad reported that an OM&M Report form has been developed and is being utilized by Hydrotec Solutions for Pheasant Landing. (See Attachment Three)

### C. OM&M Owner's Manual Development

1. Kristen and Christine discussed the Owner's Manual being developed for standard gravity systems and for supplemental treatment systems.
2. Rick and Buddy described the usefulness of telemetry in informing OM&M providers when servicing of a system is needed.

## III. Action Items

### A. Expansion of Local Oversight Authority

1. Brad reviewed proposed changes in the Ordinance that would:
  - a. Extend local oversight from systems with a design flow of 2,500 gallons per day to 10,000 gallons per day.
  - b. Allow local oversight of community systems, provided the systems are operated by a Butte County's CSA under management by the Public Works Department.
  - c. Authorize the LEA (Butte County Environmental Health) to utilize the expertise of a third-party Civil Engineer for technical assistance with the design review and system installation oversight.
2. [The committee requested that Brad bring the issue back to the next meeting after having conferred with the Regional Board and Public Works, and with a reference in the proposed revision to CSA operation of the community system.](#)

### B. Consideration of New OM&M Specialist Classification

1. Brad presented draft language for the Ordinance that would split the OM&M Specialist classification into two: OM&M Specialist I that would be authorized to service pump, STEP, and pressure distribution systems, and OM&M Specialist II that would be authorized to service any type of system.



## Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -3-

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2. There was some discussion of the need to service even pump-to-gravity systems. Nick pointed out that those types of systems were “self-regulating” in that the homeowner would procure the service when sewage was backing up into the house.
  3. After a wide range of discussion on related topics, the group reached a consensus on the following modifications to the Ordinance:
    - a. Servicing STEP and pressure distribution systems should be required every three years.
    - b. Certified Pumpers and Certified Installers who have taken the COWA OM&M I course or equivalent be authorized to conduct the service.
  4. [The committee requested Brad to bring a revised proposal to the next meeting that encompasses the above two recommendations.](#)
- C. Replacement of Drainfields Underneath Driveways
1. Daren and Kristen presented the proposal setting conditions for allowing placement of a drainfield underneath a driveway for system repairs when there is no other alternative.
  2. The committee discussed whether the requirement to use gravelless chambers is consistent with the principles built into the Ordinance and Manual that stress evapo-transpiration and aeration.
  3. Robert pointed out that pressurized distribution would be the preferred alternative.
  4. The committee pointed out that pavement could distribute vehicular weight over a drainfield more evenly than a gravel driveway.
  5. The consensus that developed in the discussion is that the Manual should identify the desired outcomes for designing a drainfield underneath a driveway (such as aeration, evapo-transpiration, resistance to crushing, resistance to soil compaction, etc.) and then require that a Certified Designer be used to determine the best alternative for meeting the designed outcome.
  6. [The committee requested Brad to bring a revised proposal to the next meeting that addresses the issues discussed.](#)
- D. Ordinance and Manual Revisions to Encourage Graywater Reuse
1. Brad distributed a memorandum to the committee that set out the rationale for streamlining the permitting process for graywater systems and the principles for how it could be achieved. (See Attachment Four)



## Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -4-

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2. The committee asked Brad to bring specific proposed language to the next committee meeting.

#### IV. Agenda Preparation for Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentative planned for December 16<sup>th</sup> at Buddy's followed by a BBQ potluck. This plan is pending authorization by Mrs. Nottingham.

#### V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Sorry. The meeting will be in Oroville in the Tahoe Rm.



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -5-



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## Wastewater Advisory Committee Sign-In Sheet

Date: October 6, 2015 Location: Tahoe Rm, 202 Mira Loma Dr., Oroville

Name	Initials	Email <small>(only for guests not on the WAC email address list)</small>
William Arnold	WA	ARNOLD@CNCIVET.COM
Wes Gilbert	WEG	wes@gilbertengineering.com
LAURALYN A. LAMBERT	LAL	lauralyn@lauralynlambert.com
Robert Perkins	RP	Robert@domestic-septic.com
Rick McCauley	RBM	R.McCAULEY@SCSONSITE.CA.NET
Nick Weibel	NW	NWEIBEL@NORTHSTARENG.COM
Bryan Malloy	BM	bryan.malloy@Comcast.net
Christine Greiten	CG	
Darren Jones		
Bred Banner	BB	



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -6-

## LAMP Requirements for Tier 2 Program

Sec	Summary	Description
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Local Agency Requirements and Responsibilities</b>	
3.3	Annual Reporting	For Section 3.3 et seq, describe your program for annual reporting to Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff in a tabular spreadsheet format.
3.3.1	Complaints	Include numbers and locations of complaints, related investigations, and means of resolution.
3.3.2	OWTS Cleaning	Include applications and registrations issued as part of the local cleaning registration pursuant to California Health and Safety Code §117400 et seq.
3.3.3	Permits for New and Replacement OWTS	Include numbers and locations of permits for new and replacement OWTS, and their Tiers.
3.4	Permanent Records	Describe your program for permanently retaining records, and means of making them available to Central Valley Water Board staff within 10 working days of a written request.
3.5	Notifications to Municipal Water Suppliers	Describe your program for notifying public well and water intake owners, and the California Department of Public Health. Notification shall be as soon as practicable, but no later than 72 hours upon discovery of a failing OWTS, as described in Sections 11.1 and 11.2, within setbacks described in Sections 7.5.6 through 7.5.10.
<b>9.1</b>	<b>Protection of Water Quality</b>	
9.1.1	Degree of vulnerability due to local hydrogeology	<i>Describe your commitment, and proposed means to identify hydrogeologically vulnerable areas for Section 9.3.2, after compiling monitoring data.</i> Discuss appropriate related siting restrictions and design criteria to protect water quality and public health. Qualified professionals ("Definitions," page 9 in the Policy) should identify hydrogeologically vulnerable areas. <i>Such professionals, where appropriate during a Water Quality Assessment, should generally consider locally reasonable percolation rates of least permeable relevant soil horizons, best available evidence of seasonally shallowest groundwater (including, but not limited to, soil mottling and gleying, static water levels of nearby wells and springs, and local drainage patterns), threats to receptors (supply wells and surface water), and potential geotechnical issues (including, but not limited to, potentially adverse dips of bedding, foliations, and fractures in bedrock).</i>
9.1.2	High quality waters and other environmental conditions requiring enhanced protection	Describe special restrictions to meet water quality and public health goals pursuant to all Federal, State, and local plans and orders. <i>Especially consider appropriate alternatives to those provided in Section 7.8, Allowable Average Density Requirements under Tier 1. See also: State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16.</i>
9.1.3	Shallow soils requiring non-standard dispersal systems	<i>We interpret "shallow" soils generally to mean thin soils overlying bedrock or highest seasonal groundwater. Dependent on threats to receptors, highest seasonal groundwater can locally include perched and intermittent saturated zones, as well as the shallowest local hydraulically unconfined aquifer unit. See Section 8.1.5 for Minimum Depths to Groundwater under Tier 1.</i> Qualified professionals should make appropriate determinations on the design and construction of non-standard dispersal systems due to shallow soils.
9.1.4	High domestic well usage areas	<i>Our key potential concerns are nitrate and pathogen transport toward receptor wells, especially in areas with existing OWTS already prone to soft failures (OWTS failures not evident at grade). Appropriate qualified professionals should consider reasonable pollutant flow paths toward domestic wells, at minimum based on: publicly available nitrate concentrations in local wells, published technical literature on local wastewater and non-wastewater nitrate sources, well constructions, pumping demands, and vulnerability of wells due to local hydrogeology. For pathogens, qualified professionals should ensure that field methods are sufficient to mitigate the potential for false positives.</i>
9.1.5	Fractured bedrock	<i>Where warranted, appropriate qualified professionals should assess permeability trends of water-bearing fractures, and related potential pathways of effluent toward receptors, including but not limited to, domestic wells and surface water. The professionals should also consider potential geotechnical issues. We suggest consideration of fractured bedrock in concert with percolation rates of overlying soils; either very high or low percolation rates might warrant siting restrictions or non-standard dispersal systems. See also State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, Attachment 1, page 1-3, Item A-3.</i>
9.1.6	Poorly drained soils	<i>Appropriate qualified professionals should give criteria for determination of representative percolation rates, including but not limited to, general site evaluation, trench logging, pre-soak and measurement methods of percolation tests, and acceptable alternatives for percolation tests.</i>
9.1.7	Vulnerable surface water	<i>Our key potential concern is eutrophication of fresh surface water. While typically with relatively low mobility in groundwater and recently informally banned in dishwasher detergents, phosphate is a common cause. At minimum, describe appropriate qualified professionals who will consider potential pathways of wastewater-sourced phosphate and other nutrients toward potentially threatened nearby surface bodies.</i>
9.1.8	Impaired water bodies	<i>Wolf Creek, Nevada County, and Woods Creek, Tuolumne County will require Tier 3 Advanced Protection Management Programs. This applies to Nevada, Placer, and Tuolumne Counties. See Attachment 2 of the OWTS Policy.</i>



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -7-

Sec	Summary	Description
9.1.9	High OWTS density areas	Where nitrate is an identified chronic issue, at minimum, consider nitrogen loading per area; for example, see Hantzsche and Finnemore (1992), Crites and Tchobanoglous (1998), and more recent publications as appropriate.
9.1.10	Limits to parcel size	At minimum, consider hydraulic mounding, nitrate and pathogen loading, and sufficiency of potential replacement areas.
9.1.11	Areas with OWTS that predate adopted standards	This refers to areas with known, multiple existing OWTS.
9.1.12	Areas with OWTS either within prescriptive, Tier 1 setbacks, or within setbacks that a Local Agency finds appropriate	This refers to areas with known, multiple existing OWTS.
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Protection of Water Quality</b>	
9.2.1	Installation and Inspection Permits	Permits generally cover procedures for inspections, maintenance and repair of OWTS, including assurances that such work on failing systems is under permit; see Tier 4.
9.2.2	Special Provision Areas and Requirements near Impaired Water Bodies	Wolf Creek, Nevada County, and Woods Creek, Tuolumne County will require Tier 3 Advanced Protection Management Programs. This applies to Nevada, Placer, and Tuolumne Counties. See Attachment 2 of the OWTS Policy.
9.2.3	LAMP Variance Procedures	Variations for new installations and repairs should be in substantial conformance to the Policy, to the greatest extent practicable. Variations cannot authorize prohibited items in Section 9.4.
9.2.4	Qualifications for Persons who Work on OWTS	Qualifications generally cover requirements for education, training, and licensing. We suggest that Local Agencies review information available from the California Onsite Water Association (COWA), see: <a href="http://www.cowa.org/">http://www.cowa.org/</a>
9.2.5	Education and Outreach for OWTS Owners	Education and Outreach generally supports owners on locating, operating, and maintaining OWTS. At minimum, ensure that you will require OWTS designers and installers to provide owners with sufficient information to address critical maintenance, repairs, and parts replacements within 48 hours of failure; see also Tier 4. Also, provide information to appropriate volunteer groups. At minimum, we suggesting providing this information on your webpage.
9.2.6	Septage Disposal	Assess existing and proposed disposal locations, and their adequacy.
9.2.7	Maintenance Districts and Zones	These generally refer to Homeowners Associations, special maintenance districts, and similar responsible entities. Requirements for responsible entities should generally reflect the Local Agency's judgment on minimum sizes of subdivisions that could potentially cause environmental impacts. LAMPs should ensure that responsible entities have the financial resources, stability, legal authority, and professional qualifications to operate community OWTS.
9.2.8	Regional Salt and Nutrient Management Plans	Consider development and implementation of, or coordination with, Regional Salt and Nutrient Management Plans; see also State Board Resolution 2009-0011: <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/laws_regs_policies/rw_policy_implementation_mem.pdf">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/laws_regs_policies/rw_policy_implementation_mem.pdf</a>
9.2.9	Watershed Management Groups	Coordinate with volunteer well monitoring programs and similar watershed management groups.
9.2.10	Proximity of Collection Systems to New or Replacement OWTS	Evaluate proximity of sewer systems to new and replacement OWTS. See also Section 9.4.9.
9.2.11	Public Water System Notification prior to permitting OWTS Installation or Repairs	Give your notification procedures to inform public water services of pending OWTS installations and repairs within prescribed setback distances.
9.2.12	Policies for Dispersal Areas within Setbacks of Public Wells and Surface Water Intakes	Discuss supplemental treatments; see Sections 10.9 and 10.10. A Local Agency can propose alternate criteria; however we will need rationale in detail.
9.2.13	Cesspool Discontinuance and Phase-Out	Provide plans and schedule.
<b>9.3</b>	<b>Management Responsibilities for LAMP</b>	
9.3.1	Permit Records, OWTS with Variances	Describe your records maintenance; numbers, locations, and descriptions of permits where you have granted variances.
9.3.2	Water Quality Assessment Program	In the Water Quality Assessment Program, generally focus on areas with characteristics covered in Section 9.1. Include monitoring and analysis of water quality data, complaints, variances, failures, and inspections. Also include appropriate monitoring for nitrate and pathogens; you can use information from other programs. We are available to provide further guidance on reporting requirements. In the interim, to assist with analyses and evaluation reports (Section 9.3.3).
9.3.2.1	Domestic Well Sampling	Apply your best professional judgment to ensure that well sampling focuses on hydrogeologically reasonable pollutant (primarily nitrate) flow paths. A qualified professional should generally design an appropriate directed, judgmental, sample (i.e., statistically non-random). Of the links provided,



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -8-

Sec	Summary	Description
		the Geotracker GAMA website might be particularly useful to the professional; at minimum we suggest reviews of available nitrate data in relevant domestic wells, up-gradient, within, and down-gradient of an area of interest. For some instances, for example where a developer proposes a relatively large project, a Local Agency might require a special study to distinguish between wastewater and non-wastewater sourced nitrate. In such cases, we suggest your consideration of requiring focused sampling and analyses, for example of $\delta^{18}O$ and $\delta^{15}N$ of nitrate (Megan Young, USGS, 2014 pers comm), and the artificial sweeteners sucralose and acesulfame-K (Buerge et al 2009, Van Stempvoort et al 2011, and more recent publications as they become available).
9.3.2.2	Domestic Well Sampling, Routine Real Estate Transfer Related	This applies only if those samples are routinely performed and reported.
9.3.2.3	Water Quality of Public Water Systems	Reviews can be by you or another municipality.
9.3.2.4	Domestic Well Sampling, New Well Development	This applies if those data are reported.
9.3.2.5	Beach Water Quality Sampling, H&S Code §115885	Public beaches include those on freshwater.
9.3.2.6	Receiving Water Sampling Related to NPDES Permits	This refers to existing data from other monitoring programs.
9.3.2.7	Data contained in California Water Quality Assessment Database	This refers to existing data from other monitoring programs.
9.3.2.8	Groundwater Sampling Related to Waste Discharge Requirements	This refers to existing data from other monitoring programs.
9.3.2.9	Groundwater Sampling Related to GAMA Program	This refers to existing data from other monitoring programs.
9.3.3	Annual Status Reports Covering 9.3.1-9.3.2	Reports are due 1 February, annually beginning one year after Regional Board approves LAMP. Every fifth year also include an evaluation report. Submit all groundwater monitoring data in Electronic Delivery Format (EDF) for Geotracker; submit all surface water data to CEDEN.
<b>9.4</b>	<b>Not Allowed or Authorized in LAMP:</b>	
9.4.1	Cesspools	Local Agencies cannot authorize cesspools of any kind or size.
9.4.2	Projected Flow >10,000 gpd	Apply professional judgment to further limit projected flows.
9.4.3	Effluent Discharger Above Post-Installation Ground Surface	For example, Local Agencies cannot authorize effluent disposal using sprinklers, exposed drip lines, free-surface wetlands, and ponds.
9.4.4	Installation on Slopes >30% without Registered Professional's Report	See also earlier comments, Section 9.1.1, regarding potential geotechnical concerns.
9.4.5	Decreased Leaching Area for IAPMO-Certified Dispersal System with Multiplier <0.70	IAPMO, International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. Decreased leaching area refers to alternatives to conventional (stone-and-pipe) dispersal systems; these alternatives require relatively less area. The multiplier, <1, allows for a reduction in dispersal field area relative to a conventional system.
9.4.6	Supplemental Treatments without Monitoring and Inspection	Therefore, ensure that the LAMP describes periodic inspection and monitoring for OWTS with supplemental treatments.
9.4.7	Significant Wastes from RV Holding Tanks	We interpret significant amounts to mean amounts greater than incidental dumping, such that volume, frequency, overall strength, or chemical additives preclude definition as domestic wastewater; see Definitions in OWTS Policy. See also, State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, Attachment B-2.
9.4.8	Encroachment Above Groundwater	Bottom of OWTS dispersal systems cannot be less than 2 feet above groundwater, or bottom of seepage pits, less than 10 feet above groundwater. We interpret groundwater to include inter-flow and perched zones, along with the shallowest main unconfined aquifer. Degree of vulnerability to pollution due to hydrogeological conditions, Section 9.1.1, and the Water Quality Assessment, Section 9.3.2., should cover in detail means of assessing seasonally shallowest depth to groundwater.
9.4.9	Installations Near Existing Sewers	New and replacement OWTS cannot occur on any lot with available public sewers less than 200 feet from a building or exterior drainage facility (exception; connection fees plus construction costs are greater than 2 times the replacement OWTS costs, and Local Agency determines no impairment to any drinking water.)
9.4.10	Minimum Setbacks:	These setbacks are from public water systems.
9.4.10.1	From Public Supply Wells	If the dispersal system is less than 10' in depth, then the setback must be greater than 150' from public water supply well.
9.4.10.2		If the dispersal system is greater than 10' in depth, then the setback must be greater than 200' from public water supply well.
9.4.10.3	From Public Supply Wells, Regarding Pathogens	If the dispersal system is greater than 20' in depth, and less than 600' from public water supply well, then the setback must be greater than the distance for two-year travel time of microbiological contaminants, as determined by qualified professional. In no case shall the setback be less than 200'.



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -9-

Sec	Summary	Description
9.4.10.4	From Public Surface Water Supplies	If the dispersal system is less than 1,200' from public water system's surface water intake, within its drainage catchment, and potentially threatens an intake, then the setback must be greater than 400' from the high water mark of the surface water body.
9.4.10.5	From Public Surface Water Supplies	If the dispersal system is greater than 1,200,'but less than 2,500,' from public water system's surface water intake, within its drainage catchment, and potentially threatens an intake, then the setback must be greater than 200' from high water mark of surface water body.
9.4.11	Supplemental Treatments, Replacement OWTS That Do Not Meet Minimum Setback Requirements	Replacement OWTS shall meet minimum horizontal setbacks to the maximum extent practicable.
9.4.12	Supplemental Treatments, New OWTS That Do Not Meet Minimum Setback Requirements	New OWTS shall meet minimum horizontal setbacks to the maximum extent practicable, and meet requirements for pathogens as specified in Section 10.8. and any other Local Agency's mitigation measures.



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -10-



## OM&M Inspection Checklist

### System Owner and Parcel Identification

System Owner: [Click here to enter text.](#)

APN: [Click here to enter text.](#)

System Address: [Click here to enter text.](#)

### System Components (Check all that apply):

Septic tank    ⇨     Intermittent Sand Filter    ⇨     Gravity Dispersal

### Inspection Checklist

PD Problem detected, additional service required   
 OK Component inspected and in satisfactory condition   
 RS Routine service provided during service call   
 N/A Component not present or not inspected

Wastewater System Component	PD	OK	RS	N/A
<b>Septic Tank</b>				
1. Scum and sludge level measured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Tank inspected for integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Effluent filter checked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Pump and Dosing Chamber</b>				
1. Tank inspected for integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Risers checked for indication of leaks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. All floats inspected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Pump cycle verified	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Float cords wrapped and orderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Biotube inspected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Control Panel</b>				
1. Timer/digital counter readings recorded during inspection for future reference? <i>Note: For control panels that record pump activity electronically, counter operation can be verified remotely.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Pump cycle counter operation verified by manual operation of the pump <i>Note: For control panels that record pump activity electronically, counter operation can be verified remotely.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Audible and visual alarms tested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Run time checked if dispersal field demand-dosed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Electrical box inspected for moisture and secure connections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Intermittent Single-Pass Sand Filter</b>				
1. Inspected for effluent ponding over sand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Inspected for effluent breakout or discharge to surface of the ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Area free from roads, structures, vehicular traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Surface water drainage and down spouts diverted from sand filter area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Observation ports accessible and maintained	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Equal distribution confirmed by measuring distal end orifice pressure head	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Orifices condition inspected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -11-



## OM&M Inspection Checklist

pg. 2

Wastewater System Component	PD	OK	RS	N/A
<b>Pump Well within Single-Pass Sand Filter</b>				
1. Tank inspected for integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Risers checked for indication of leaks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. All floats inspected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Pump cycle verified	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Float cords wrapped in orderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Biotube inspected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Gravity Dispersal Drainfield</b>				
1. Depth of effluent ponding within trench: <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Inspected for indication of effluent breakout or discharge to surface of the ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Observation ports accessible and maintained	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Area free from roads, structures, vehicular traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Surface water drainage and down spouts diverted from drainfield area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Constituent Analysis</b>				
Constituent	Result	Sample Date	Lab	
1. Influent BOD	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	
2. Influent TSS	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	
3. Effluent BOD	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	
4. Effluent TSS	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter a date.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	
<b>Inspector Comments</b>				
<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>				

### Certification

I certified that I am an OM&M Specialist certified by Butte County Environmental Health (LEA) and the information provided in this report is based on my observations and is true to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
OM&M Specialist Signature

[Click here to enter a date.](#)

Date of Inspection

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Company Name



# Minutes - Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2015

Page -12-



**Public Health Department**

Cathy A. Raevsky, Director

Mark A. Lundberg, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer

**Environmental Health**

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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** October 6, 2015

**To:** WAC

**From:** Brad

**Re:** Objectives in Modifying Ordinance to Encourage Graywater Reuse

As we move ahead with some minor (and some possibly not so minor) changes to our Onsite Wastewater Ordinance and Manual, we will be proposing some changes that will promote greater reuse of graywater. Draft wording will be developed this month to meet the following objectives:

- Make the requirements for user-friendly requirements
- Streamline the graywater system permitting process
- Maintain full compliance with Chapter 16 of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)
- Require only Registration for "Clothes Washer Systems" as defined in the UPC
- Required only over-the-county plan review only for "Simple Systems" as defined in the UPC (250 gallons per day or less)<sup>1</sup>
- Require only Construction Permits (which would include a site inspection by the LEA) for "Complex Systems" as defined by the UPC (greater than 240 gallons per day)

Our rationale for making these changes is as follows:

- Graywater reuse is a sustainable wastewater practice and graywater can be an important resource for homeowners in the current drought situation
- Graywater systems are already being put in by homeowners without any consultation or oversight by the LEA. Streamlining the requirements may encourage homeowners and the graywater advocacy community to collaborate with the LEA.
- These changes will move the LEA's emphasis from one of enforcement to one of environmental and public health education.

<sup>1</sup> This change will require prior consultation with our public water system drinking water purveyors.

# Attachment Two

## Proposed Changes to Ordinance



## On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 3

meets State and local minimum standards, excepting a system serving a primary and secondary dwelling sharing facilities on the same lot or parcel.

- M. "Disinfection" shall mean the process of destroying pathogenic and other microorganisms in wastewater as specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual.
- N. "Effective Soil" shall mean permeable, unsaturated soil providing absorption and retention for treatment of wastewater effluent.
- O. "Environmental Health Director" shall mean the Director of the Environmental Health Division of the Butte County Public Health Department.
- P. "Failing Wastewater System" shall mean any on-site wastewater system that:
1. Discharges untreated wastewater directly into the ground in a subsurface pit or perforated vessel; or
  - ~~1-2.~~ 2. Discharges untreated or inadequately treated wastewater or septic tank effluent directly or indirectly onto the ground surface, into a dwelling, or into surface or groundwater; or
  - ~~2-3.~~ 3. Is not operated in compliance with permit requirements for operation, monitoring and maintenance as specified in this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual; or
  - ~~3-4.~~ 4. Has been retrofitted with unapproved components or been modified from the original approved design; or
  - ~~4-5.~~ 5. Does not meet effluent quality standards as specified in the approved wastewater system design.
- Q. "Industrial Waste" shall mean any liquid, gaseous, radioactive, or solid waste substance, or a combination thereof, resulting from any process of industry, manufacturing, trade, or business, or from the development or recovery of any natural resources.
- R. "Land Use Project" shall mean any entitlement process, initiated through the Butte County Department of Development Services, including, but not limited to, tentative maps, parcel maps, use permits, certificates of compliance, and lot line adjustments. The requirements in this Chapter apply only to conditions regulated by the LEA. Other County departments have separate processes and requirements.
- S. "Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)" shall mean the Environmental Health Division of the Butte County Public Health Department, which is designated as such by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to [California] Public Resources Code Section 43202.
- T. "Minimum Useable Wastewater Area (MUWA)" shall mean the amount of useable ground surface, expressed in square feet, that is required when creating new lots or

Purpose: Per AB 885, to prohibit cess pools without having to add a definition



## On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 4

parcels in the tentative or parcel map process. The amount of land area is based on the percolation rate and the type of leach field distribution method.

- U. "On-Site Wastewater Manual" shall mean the document containing the standards and requirements of this Chapter, including the standards for on-site wastewater treatment and dispersal systems, as adopted by the LEA and the Wastewater Advisory Committee and adopted by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.
- V. "On-Site Wastewater System" shall mean individual disposal systems, community collection and disposal systems, and alternative collection and disposal systems that use subsurface disposal. The term shall include ~~mean~~ any system of piping, treatment devices or other facilities that convey, store, treat, or dispose of wastewater ~~on the property where it originates or on adjacent or nearby property under the control of the user,~~ and which is not connected to a public sewer system.
- W. "Operating Permit" shall mean that administrative document issued by the LEA authorizing the initial and/or continued use of an on-site wastewater system, as specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual.
- X. "Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance (OM&M)" shall mean regular inspection, monitoring, and service provided to on-site wastewater systems as delineated in the On-Site Wastewater Manual to insure their long-term viability
- Y. "Owner" shall mean any person who alone, or jointly, or severally with others:
  1. Has legal title to any single lot, dwelling, dwelling unit, or commercial facility, or an easement, sufficient to allow installation and maintenance of a wastewater system; or
  2. Has care, charge, or control of any real property as applicant, executor, executrix, administrator, trustee or guardian of the estate of the holder of legal title.
- Z. "Person" shall mean any individual (owner or authorized representative), corporation, association, firm, organization, partnership, or company.
- AA. "Pressure Distribution" shall mean dispersal of wastewater system utilizing pressurized small diameter distribution lines for equal distribution of effluent.
- BB. "Public Sewer System" shall mean any sewer system constructed, installed, maintained, operated and owned by or for a municipality or public entity established for wastewater treatment and discharge.
- CC. "Site Evaluation" shall mean the process for determining whether a parcel's site conditions meet the minimum requirements of this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual.

Purpose: To allow regulation of community wastewater systems.



On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 6

1. "Blackwater" shall mean wastewater contaminated generally originating from toilets. It includes, but is not limited to, discharges from water closets, toilets, urinals or similar fixtures alone or in combination with other wastewater.
2. "Graywater" shall mean untreated wastewater that has not been contaminated by any toilet discharge, has not been affected by infectious, contaminated, or unhealthy bodily wastes, and does not present a threat from contamination by unhealthful processing, manufacturing, or operating wastes. The term includes wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom washbasins, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs, but does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks or dishwashers. ~~mean wastewater, exclusive of blackwater or industrial waste, deposited into plumbing drain systems or exiting directly from wastewater-generating appliances. It includes, but is not limited to, wastewater discharges from kitchen sinks, washing machines, bathtubs, showers, bathroom washbasins, and laundry tubs.~~

Purpose: Definition more closely aligned with UPC

**19-4 Applicability**

This Chapter shall apply to on-site wastewater systems with a design flow of less than ~~2,500~~10,000 gallons per day as follows.

A. Wastewater Systems Applied for After the Effective Date of System Repair

All provisions specified in this Chapter and in the On-Site Wastewater Manual shall apply to on-site wastewater systems applied for after the effective date, excluding wastewater system repairs, servicing the following:

- ~~1. A single family residence; and/or~~
- 2-1. One or more single or multi-family units ~~on a single parcel~~ with a combined wastewater flow of less than ~~two-ten thousand five hundred (2,500~~10,000) gallons per day; and/or
- 3-2. One or more non-residential uses ~~on a single parcel~~ with a combined flow of less than ~~two-ten thousand five hundred (2,500~~10,000) gallons per day.

Purpose: To expand local jurisdiction up to 10,000 gpd per AB 885, PLUS to authorize regulation of community wastewater systems

B. Wastewater System Repairs

When wastewater systems fail, they shall be repaired so as to be brought into compliance with the provisions of this Chapter to the maximum extent feasible. Repair of failing standard systems with upgraded wastewater systems incorporating supplemental treatment shall not be required, except when specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual or when the Environmental Health Director has determined



## On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 8

depth, horizontal setbacks, and available area for one hundred percent system replacement. Percolation tests may be required under certain circumstances as outlined in the On-Site Wastewater Manual.

- D. Prior to completion of the site evaluation, the LEA may require groundwater monitoring during high rainfall periods of the year as described in the On-Site Wastewater Manual prior to completion of the site evaluation.
- E. The LEA may require a new site evaluation or other soils testing if it determines that prior site evaluation approvals were based on testing and/or reporting that was incomplete, insufficient, incompatible with known information about a given area, or for a site where subsequent excavation activities may have altered the suitability of the parcel for accommodating an on-site wastewater system.

### 19-7 On-Site Wastewater System Requirements

#### A. Minimum Vertical Separation Requirements

##### 1. New Parcels:

An application for a subdivision or parcel map shall not be approved after the effective date of this Chapter unless the minimum vertical separation requirements and other applicable standards specified in Section 19-10 of this Chapter are met.

##### 2. Existing Parcels:

a. Except as provided in Section 19-4, B. (Wastewater Subsections A.3. and A.4. of this Section, new wastewater systems shall not be approved by the LEA for parcels created after the effective date of this Chapter, unless the following minimum vertical separation requirements are met:

i. Standard gravity systems shall be sited and designed so as to have a minimum vertical separation of 36 inches.

ii. Supplemental treatment systems using pressurized distribution or subsurface drip dispersal of treated effluent shall be sited and designed so as to have a minimum vertical separation of 24 inches to groundwater and 18 inches to other limiting geological features, such as impermeable or excessively drained soil, as indicated in Table One of section 19-10 of this Chapter, or fractured rock. ~~with effluent dispersal using pressurized distribution or subsurface drip dispersal of treated effluent.~~

b. Existing on-site wastewater systems that require expansion or modification to meet increased design flow shall be allowed such expansion without being required to meet the vertical separation requirements of this Chapter when the need for system expansion is not the result in a change

Purpose: To clarify reference to a standard gravity system PLUS to accommodate AB 885 requirement of 24 inch separation to groundwater



On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19  
Adopted March 16, 2010  
Part One \*\* Page 9

in use and when the expansion will not impair water quality as determined by the LEA.

3. Existing Parcels: Special Consideration for Enhanced Design Alternatives

New wastewater systems may be approved by the LEA for parcels created prior to the effective date of this Chapter provided one of the following enhanced design alternatives is utilized within the constraints and specifications outlined in this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual:

a. Engineered Fill

Engineered fill may be utilized, as described in the On-Site Wastewater Manual, where all the following site conditions and system specifications are met:

- i. There shall be a minimum of 12 inches of native effective soil after site preparation and prior to placement of fill;
- ii. Wastewater shall receive supplemental treatment to a depth of engineered fill added to bring the vertical separation to a minimum of 24 inches.

Purpose: To comply with AB 885 requirement of 24 inch separation to groundwater

b. Disinfection

Disinfection using an approved add-on disinfection component may be utilized, as described in the On-Site Wastewater Manual, where all the following site conditions and system specifications are met:

- ~~i.~~ A minimum of 24 inches of vertical separation to groundwater shall be maintained;
- ~~ii.~~ A minimum of 12 inches of vertical separation shall be maintained to other limiting geological features, such as impermeable or excessively drained soil, or fractured rock;
- ~~iii.~~ Wastewater shall receive supplemental treatment provided by either a single-pass sand filter or an alternate type of supplementary treatment system. If an alternative type of supplementary treatment system is used, the testing frequency for compliance with effluent quality limits shall be increased from quarterly to monthly for the first year of operation, or longer if needed to verify reliable treatment;
- ~~iv.~~ Dispersal shall utilize either pressure distribution or subsurface drip irrigation; and
- ~~v.~~ An analysis shall be performed demonstrating that breakout of wastewater will not occur.



## On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 10

### 4. Existing Parcels: Special Consideration for Large Parcels

When site conditions are such that a 36-inch vertical separation cannot be attained for parcels created prior to the effective date of this Chapter, standard systems may be approved by the LEA when the following criteria are met:

- a. The parcel shall be at least 5 acres in size; the provisions of this Section shall apply to multiple parcels that were merged after the effective date of this Chapter, provided the total combined area is at least 5 acres in size;
- b. The area in which the dispersal component of the wastewater system is located and its designated repair area shall be sited so as to provide a native effective soil depth of 24 inches;
- c. The dispersal component of the wastewater system shall be designed and constructed to maintain a vertical separation of at least 24 inches to watertable and at least 18 inches to other limiting geological features, such as impermeable or excessively drained soil, or fractured rock ;
- d. There shall be evidence of a restrictive layer between the dispersal component of the wastewater system and the first useable aquifer. If the first usable aquifer is known or estimated to be within 10 feet of ground surface, additional evaluation shall be required to verify that there is at least three feet of unsaturated soil between the bottom of the dispersal system and the anticipated highest level of usable groundwater;
- e. The soil conditions at distances of 25 feet and 50 feet downslope of the dispersal field and its designated repair area shall be demonstrated to meet the same soil suitability conditions as required for dispersal field;
- f. The wastewater system shall serve only a single family residence;
- g. A deed restriction shall be recorded to assure: (a) The parcel will not be subdivided in the future; and (b) The parcel shall not be further developed with a permanent secondary dwelling, until such time that the wastewater system is upgraded to meet the requirements of Subsection A.2. of this Section or until another method of wastewater disposal is approved by the LEA, such as connection to a public sewer;
- h. The dispersal component of the on-site wastewater system and the designated repair area shall be sited so as to maximize separation from wells and surface water with the design objective of increasing said separation when feasible, by up to 100% of that which is specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual. At a minimum, an additional setback distance to

Purpose: To comply with AB 885 requirement of 24 inch separation to groundwater



## On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 11

any well or surface water in the downslope direction from the dispersal field shall be 50 feet;

- i. The increased setback area between wells and surface water, and the dispersal component of the on-site wastewater system and the designated repair area shall be verified through the site evaluation process to not contain rock outcrops, cut banks, or other soil or landscape features that would allow surfacing of wastewater effluent;
- j. The dispersal component of the on-site wastewater system and the designated repair area shall be sited so as to maximize separation to property lines with the design objective of increasing said separation when feasible, by up to 100ft. At a minimum, the setback distance to the any property line in the downslope direction from the dispersal field shall be at least 50 feet; and
- k. The dispersal component of the on-site wastewater system and the designated repair area shall be sited so that the slope within and in the area extending 50 feet from the dispersal field and its designated repair area shall be 5% or less. The Board may waive this requirement where in can be demonstrated that there will be adequate drainage away from the dispersal field.

Purpose: To define responsibility for operation and maintenance of community wastewater systems with multiple ownerships.

### B. Reserve Area for Wastewater System Replacement

An area reserved for wastewater system repair and replacement shall be set aside and maintained as described in the On-Site Wastewater Manual.

### C. Responsibility for Wastewater System Repair or Replacement

1. The responsibility for following all applicable provisions of this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual for operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of any wastewater system under a single property ownership shall be that of the owner of the property on which the system is located.
2. The responsibility for following all applicable provisions of this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual for operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of any wastewater system under multiple ownership shall be that of a County Services Area as specified in Board of Supervisors Resolution 13-080.

### E-D. Prohibitions

1. No person shall treat or dispose of wastewater in any manner other than by an approved on-site wastewater system, community wastewater system, public sewer system or other method meeting the standards set forth in this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual.



D. Permitting

1. Construction Permit

- a. Except for a graywater system meeting the requirements of Chapter 20A of the ~~2007-2013~~ California Plumbing Code as enacted and hereafter amended, the On-Site Wastewater Manual, and Subsection D.2. of this section, no person shall construct or replace an on-site wastewater system without first having applied for and been issued an On-Site Wastewater System Construction Permit. An application shall not be deemed complete unless it contains all the requirements specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual.
- b. Permits that authorize construction of on-site wastewater systems shall remain valid for a period of two (2) years from the date initially issued. Renewal procedures shall be as set forth in the On-Site Wastewater Manual if additional time is required to complete construction.
- c. No person shall construct or replace an on-site wastewater system unless it complies with Butte County Code Chapter 50, ~~Stormwater~~ Management and Discharge Control.
- d. No person shall construct or replace an on-site wastewater system unless it complies with Butte County Code Chapter 13, Article, Grading.

Purpose: Updated reference to UPC

2. LEA Notification and Plan Review

Except for removal of solids from a septic tank by a certified pumper, no person shall service or replace an approved wastewater system's components without first notifying the LEA so that parcel files can be updated, trends in equipment reliability can be tracked, and so that the contractor can be advised of any technical updates or requirements relevant to service that will be provided. Services requiring LEA notification and plan review without the requirement for permitting include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Replacement of mechanical or electrical parts with parts of the same type, size, and capacity for pump to gravity wastewater systems;
- b. Minor repairs of septic tanks, such as repair of sanitary "T"s, repair or replacement of distribution boxes;
- c. Repair or replacement of sewer pipes running to distribution boxes; and
- d. Design and installation of graywater systems identified as Clothes Washer Systems and Simple Systems in ~~meeting the requirements of~~ Chapter 16A of the ~~2007-2013~~ California Plumbing Code ~~and the On-Site Wastewater Manual~~ and meeting the requirements therein.

Purpose: To align requirements with those in UPC and to encourage graywater systems



On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19  
Adopted March 16, 2010  
Part One \*\* Page 19

- I. This Chapter and/or the On-Site Wastewater Manual are intended to be consistent with and implement the Butte County General Plan, any applicable Community Plan, or any other applicable plan of any agency having jurisdiction.

**19-11 Chico Urban Area Requirements**

- A. **Septic Tank Density**
  1. **Density** - Unless approved in writing by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), the maximum allowable density within the Chico Urban Area shall be one residence, or one Residential Equivalent (360 gallons per day) for non-residential development, per acre.
  2. **Regional Board Review** - For projects of over one thousand (1,000) gallons per day wastewater flow within the Chico Urban Area, septic tank permits and related entitlements shall not be issued or authorized until the project applicant has secured concurrence of RWQCB.
- B. **Future Public Sewer Connection Infrastructure**

Within the Proposed Sewer Area as identified in the Chico Urban Area Nitrate Compliance Plan, septic tank development shall include the construction of sewer laterals to the property line for future sewer connection. Sewer laterals shall meet standards of the expected sewer service provider and, if the expected provider is not known, of the Butte County Improvement Standards adopted by Butte County Board of Supervisors Resolution pursuant to Butte County Code Chapter 20.
- C. **Sewer Connection**

New development and/or substantial upgrades to existing development on parcels within the Chico Urban Area shall be connected to a public sewer in compliance with the provisions outlined in Section 19-8 of this Chapter.

**19-12 Wastewater Advisory Committee**

- A. The Wastewater Advisory Committee is hereby established to consist of nine members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one from each of the following categories:
  1. Board of Realtors or Association of Realtors;
  2. Building Industry Association;
  3. Certified On-Site Wastewater Operation and Maintenance Specialist;
  4. Engineer specializing in environmental consultation;
  5. Engineer specializing in on-site wastewater consulting;
  6. Certified septic tank pumper or septic tank manufacturer;

Purpose: To clarify references to certified professionals



## On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19

Adopted March 16, 2010

Part One \*\* Page 20

Purpose: To include a certified installer as part of the committee

- ~~6-7.~~ Certified installer;
- ~~7-8.~~ Registered Environmental Health Specialist;
- ~~8-9.~~ Wastewater component vendor or proprietor; and
- ~~9-10.~~ Citizen-at-large

- B. The Wastewater Advisory Committee shall advise the LEA on matters pertaining to on-site wastewater, including but not limited to:
  - 1. Development and maintenance of the On-Site Wastewater Manual.
  - 2. Application of new on-site collection, treatment, conveyance, and dispersal technology.
  - 3. Development and oversight of a system for assuring that on-site wastewater systems are appropriately operated, maintained, and monitored.
  - 4. Future revisions to this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual.
  - 5. Policies, practices, and procedures to improve protection of public health and delivery of customer service pertaining to the implementation of this Chapter and the On-Site Wastewater Manual.
- C. Members of the Wastewater Advisory Committee shall meet at least once quarterly.
- D. The LEA shall provide staff support for the Wastewater Advisory Committee.

### 19-13 Local Certification of On-Site Wastewater Professionals

- A. Certified Pumper Requirements
  - 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in pumping any septic tank, seepage pit or chemical toilet, or removing other accumulations of sewage without first having obtained a pumper's certificate from the LEA. A current pumper certificate shall be deemed by the LEA as compliance with the registration requirements specified in the California Health and Safety Code Sections 117405 - 117450.
  - 2. Pumpers shall not pump any septic tank or wastewater holding tank without completing a Septage Pumper Report, at the time the service is provided, using a reporting format prescribed by the LEA. Septage Pumper Reports shall be submitted to the LEA at a frequency not less than monthly.
  - 3. Any person seeking a certificate shall file and maintain a current mailing address with the LEA and shall agree that correspondence and notices may be sent to said addresses.
  - 4. Requirements for initial pumper certification and for recertification when the certification has lapsed without renewal shall include the following:



On-Site Wastewater Ordinance – Butte County Code Chapter 19  
Adopted March 16, 2010  
Part One \*\* Page 24

with respect to on-site wastewater systems. Examination and/or certification of a wastewater system designer by a third-party entity shall be reviewed and may be determined by the LEA to satisfy the requirement for examination specified herein;

- b. The designer shall provide verification to the LEA of the applicant's current licensure and/or registration status as required in this Section; and
  - c. The designer shall provide verification to the LEA of either a minimum of one year experience working with a certified designer, or demonstration of attendance in training for on-site wastewater treatment design or operation, monitoring, and maintenance from the California On-Site Wastewater Association or the equivalent, or some other experience that can be demonstrated to the LEA as providing knowledge and skills equivalent to having worked with a certified designer for a minimum of one year.
6. Requirements for designer certificate renewal shall include the following:
- a. The designer shall renew the certification prior to the date of the certificate's expiration; and
  - b. The designer shall demonstrate to the LEA an ongoing minimum annual attendance of eight hours of classes dealing with subject matter related to application, design, and construction of on-site wastewater systems. Sixteen hours may be averaged over two consecutive years. Attendance may be demonstrated to the LEA by certification of completion provided by the instructor or sponsor of said educational activity.
7. Designer certificates shall remain valid for two consecutive years and may be renewed. A designer's certificate shall not be transferable.
- D. Certified Operation, Monitoring, and Maintenance (OM&M) Specialist Requirements
1. Any operation, monitoring, and maintenance inspection required by the LEA shall be performed by a certified OM&M Specialist as specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual. Copies of said standards shall be made available to the public at the LEA's office.
  2. Any person seeking a certificate shall file and maintain correspondence with the LEA and shall agree that correspondence sent to said addresses.
  3. There shall be two levels of OM&M Specialists certified by the LEA. Level One OM&M Specialists shall be limited in their practice to the operation, monitoring, and maintenance of on-site wastewater systems to providing said services for septic tanks, effluent pump, and dispersal fields utilizing gravity, subsurface

Purpose: To allow certified installers to maintain pressure distribution systems



Purpose: To allow certified installers to maintain pressure distribution systems

drip, or pressurized distribution. Level Two OM&M Specialists shall be authorized to perform operation, monitoring, and maintenance on any type or configuration of on-site wastewater system.

~~3-4.~~ Requirements for initial OM&M Specialist certification and for recertification when the certification has lapsed without renewal shall include the following:

- a. In order to demonstrate the applicant's knowledge of wastewater system principles and the rules, regulations, laws, and ordinances affecting the public health and safety with respect to on-site wastewater systems, The Level One OM&M Specialists shall successfully complete a written examination and certification by a third-party entity approved by the LEA equivalent to the California Onsite Water Association's OM&M I and Level Two OM&M Specialists shall successfully complete a written examination and certification by a third-party entity approved by the LEA equivalent to the California Onsite Water Association's OM&M I and OM&M II; and-or, in the event that a third-party entity is not available, successful passage of a written examination provided by the LEA, demonstrating the applicant's knowledge of wastewater system principles and the rules, regulations, laws, and ordinances affecting the public health and safety with respect to on-site wastewater systems, and
- b. ~~The Level One OM&M Specialists shall provide verification to the LEA of current certification as a Butte County Certified Pumper or Certified Installer and a Level Two OM&M Specialist shall provide verification to the LEA of a~~ minimum of one year experience working with a certified OM&M Specialist, or working as a certified designer, or some other experience that can be demonstrated to the LEA as providing knowledge and skills equivalent to having worked with a certified OM&M Specialist or as a certified Designer for a minimum of one year.

~~4-5.~~ Requirements for OM&M certificate renewal shall include the following:

- a. The OM&M Specialist shall renew the certification prior to the date of the certificate's expiration;
- b. The OM&M Specialist shall demonstrate to the LEA a minimum annual attendance of eight hours of classes dealing with subject matter related to application, design, construction, operation, monitoring, and/or maintenance of on-site wastewater systems provided by an approved third-party entity. Sixteen hours may be averaged over two consecutive years, and may be demonstrated to the LEA by certification of completion provided by the instructor or sponsor of said educational activity; and

## Proposed Changes to Manual - Part One



3. This portion of the design requires three items that show sufficient detail to allow the design to be reviewed and the system to be installed. Checklists are included for each drawing and all applicable items in the checklist must be shown. Plot plans, design details, and cross-sections may be combined on one or more design sheets, provided there is sufficient detail and clarity to specify components, dimensions, spacing, and setbacks as outlined in the design checklists.
    - a. Scaled Plot Plan  
This drawing shows the placement of the septic system in relationship to the overall development plan for the property. The plot plan must match the building permit plot plan (the same sketch is accepted by the building department for their application), and should verify that the system can be installed in conformance with setbacks and site limitations.
    - b. Scaled Layout Sketch Detail  
This item shows the detail of the drainfield layout and details of the system design. The layout detail is intended to be a close-up of the portion of the plot plan where the septic system is located.
    - c. Cross-Section Detail  
This item shows the depth from original grade of the septic system components. The cross-section is intended to be used both as a guide for system construction and as verification that vertical separation and component depths meet code.
  4. Design forms must be signed and dated by the contractor for standard gravity systems or by the certified designer for pressure distribution or supplemental treatment systems.
  5. Special design analysis will be performed by the LEA for all on-site wastewater systems with design flows exceeding 2,500 gpd. The analysis will include:
    - a. Analysis of the potential localizing wastewater treatment system at a minimum, groundwater mounding and
    - b. Minimum criteria for evaluation of the re
    - c. Incorporation of system design measures
  6. For any project with a combined design flow exceeding 2,500 gallons per day, the LEA may utilize a Civil Engineer with experience in the design and
- Purpose: To provide for technical assistance at applicant's expense for locally regulated wastewater systems with design flow greater than the current limit of 2,500 gpd



Purpose: To provide for technical assistance at applicant's expense for locally regulated wastewater systems with design flow greater than the current limit of 2,500 gpd

construction of on-site wastewater systems to act as a third-party consultant on behalf of the LEA to review the system design. The cost for the consultant's services will be borne by the project applicant.

- ~~6.7.~~ Any proposed on-site wastewater primary or repair system within an Area of Environmental Concern designated as such due to special status species populations or habitat shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist. If the site contains a population of special status species or habitat critical to the survival of a special status species, then either an alternative site will be identified, or the biologist will identify on- and off-site mitigation that is acceptable to County and to the California Fish and Game.
  - ~~7.8.~~ Any proposed on-site wastewater primary or repair system within an Area of Environmental Concern designated as such due to wetlands, riparian habitat, wetlands, or oak woodlands shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist. If the site contains one or more of these habitat types, then either an alternative site will be identified, or the biologist will identify on and off site mitigation that is acceptable to County and to the California Fish and Game. Mitigation may include construction of replacement woodlands, replanting degraded riparian habitat on- or off-site, replanting oak trees, payment to the State Oak Woodlands Conservation Fund, orh other measures approved by the County and State.
  - ~~8.9.~~ Any proposed on-site wastewater primary or repair system within an Area of Environmental Concern designated as such due to an adopted HCP/NCCP shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist to identify on and off site mitigation that is acceptable to County and to the California Fish and Game. Mitigation may include avoidance of especially critical habitat, planting of replacement woodlands, replanting degraded riparian habitat on- or off-site, replanting oak trees, or other measures approved by the County and State.
- C. Design Stakeout
- A Construction Permit application will not be considered complete unless the designer has first staked out and ribboned the primary and replacement drainfield areas. This will alert homeowners of these critical developmental features so that building and excavation activities can be controlled appropriately. This will also allow the LEA to confirm the adequacy of designs prior to installation of systems.
- D. Notification, Inspection, and Final Approval
- 1. The installer must contact the LEA and system designer to make arrangements for an inspection of the system construction. The system must then

## Proposed Changes to Manual - Part Three



## Part Three: System Requirements

### Chapter 1. General Requirements

These general requirements apply to all onsite wastewater systems, unless otherwise specified within this Manual.

#### A. Wastewater Strength

1. Domestic strength wastewater, for the purpose of this Manual, shall be defined as wastewater with the following characteristics:
    - a. Total suspended solids less than or equal to 100 mg/l
    - b. Five-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand less than or equal to 100 mg/l
    - c. Total Nitrogen as Nitrogen less than or equal to 75 ppm
    - d. Grease and oil less than 100 ppm
  2. Unless otherwise demonstrated by a Certified Designer, recreational vehicle holding tank wastes, when discharged in a concentrated and undiluted volume, such as at a commercial RV dump station, shall be considered high strength waste.
  - ~~3-3.~~ Wastewater from non-residential sources or high strength wastewater from residential sources must receive pretreatment sufficient to lower the waste strength to the level of that commonly found in domestic residential septic tank effluent before discharge into a standard gravity or supplemental treatment wastewater system.
  - ~~3-4.~~ The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board will be notified by the LEA whenever the LEA approves a pretreatment system or methodology for high strength wastewater.
- B. Table 1 provides minimum vertical separation and application rate requirements based on the USDA soil texture classification system. Soil textural classification should be considered the primary data source for system sizing.
- C. Seasonal groundwater monitoring will be required by the LEA for on-site wastewater systems with a design flow of 1,500 gpd or greater whenever soil coloration (redoximorphic features) indicates the seasonal groundwater level may be elevated to within six inches of the required vertical separation, or where other factors, including but not limited to soil maps, historical observations, vegetation, or topography indicate that elevated seasonal groundwater may be present. For on-site wastewater systems with a design flow of less than 1,500 gpd, seasonal groundwater monitoring may be required by the LEA for the conditions described above. Further information about seasonal groundwater monitoring is found in Part 1 of this Manual.

Purpose: To comply with AB 885 prohibition against putting concentrated, high strength RV waste into a wastewater system



On-Site Wastewater Manual – Part 3 – System Requirements

Adopted March 16, 2010

Updated August 24, 2010, December 11, 2012, and March 24, 2015

Part Three \*\* Page 6

Purpose: To meet specific setback requirements contained in AB 885

**Chapter 2. Location and Setbacks**

The setbacks shown in the following table will apply to all o unless otherwise specified in this Manual.

Minimum Horizontal Separation<sup>1</sup>

Distance Required From:	From Disposal Field	From Septic Tank, ATU, or Lined Sand Filter
Wells <sup>2</sup>		
Public well <sup>3</sup>	<del>600'</del> 150'	<del>600'</del> 150'
Private well	100'	50'
Other wells, excluding monitoring wells	100'	50'
Surface waters <sup>4</sup>		
Reservoirs or lakes	200'	50'
Year-Round Springs, Streams, Creeks, or Ponds		
Intermittent streams, drainage swales	100'	50'
	50'	50'
Curtain drains--Vertical/Curtain drains		
Up gradient of system	20'	20'
Down gradient of system	50'	25'
Cuts manmade in excess of 2.5 feet (top of down slope cut) or escarpments <sup>5</sup>	4 X height <sup>6</sup> of the bank, to a maximum of 50'	20'
Property lines, foundation lines of any structure including garages, out-buildings, in-ground swim pools, water lines <sup>7a</sup>	5'	5'
Easements <sup>7b</sup>		
Public access easement	20'	20'
Other easement	Clear	Clear

<sup>1</sup> If a setback is not specified in this table, the most recent Board of Supervisors-adopted Uniform Plumbing Code setback will be applied.

<sup>2</sup> Additional setback may be required from disposal field for community or larger wastewater systems.

<sup>3</sup> The 150' setback is increased to 200' if the disposal system exceeds 10' in depth. Where the disposal system is within 600 feet of a public water well and exceeds 20 feet in depth the horizontal setback required to achieve a two-year travel time for microbiological contaminants shall be evaluated. A qualified professional shall conduct this evaluation. However in no case shall the setback be less than 200 feet. Where the effluent disposal system is within 1,200 feet from a public water system's surface water intake point, within the catchment of the drainage, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as upstream of the intake point for flowing water bodies, the disposal system shall be no less than 400 feet from the high water mark of the reservoir, lake or flowing water body. Where the effluent disposal system is located more than 1,200 feet but less than 2,500 feet from a public water system's surface water intake point, within the catchment area of the drainage, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as upstream of the intake point for flowing water bodies, the disposal system shall be no less than 200 feet from the high water mark of the reservoir, lake or flowing water body.

<sup>4</sup> The height (in feet) of the cut or escarpment as measured from the toe of the cut or vertically to the projection of the natural ground slope.

<sup>5</sup> The LEA encourages the placement of septic tanks and other treatment units as close as feasible to the minimum separation from the building foundation in order to minimize possible clogging of the building sewer.

<sup>6</sup> Unless otherwise approved by the LEA, crossing of water lines and effluent sewer lines is prohibited.

<sup>7</sup> A system may be installed underneath overhead power lines or cross other utilities (e.g., canals) providing all of the following conditions are met:

- a. Written authorization is received from the utility company operating and maintaining the utility affected or for which the easement or restriction was granted;
- b. The LEA determines that the encroachment is necessary and there is no other viable area in which to install the system; and
- c. All construction modifications required by the LEA and the affected utility company (s) are instituted to carry out the purposes of this Manual.



On-Site Wastewater Manual – Part 3 – System Requirements  
Adopted March 16, 2010  
Updated August 24, 2010, December 11, 2012, and March 24, 2015  
Part Three \*\* Page 27

- b. In order to prevent differential settling when the mound is put into service, the filter media must have a uniform density throughout.
- 4. Application Rates.
  - a. The application rate for the mound infiltration area (gravel bed) must not exceed 1.0 gpd/ft<sup>2</sup>.
  - b. The application rate for basal area will be based on soil type.
- 5. Minimum Dosing Frequency  
Timed dosing system is required. The dosing frequency is dependent on the media specification used as the filter media. That appropriate dose volumes are delivered to the filter media, the timer must be set to dose a minimum of 12 times per day.

Purpose: To replace reference to outdated material with current, state-of-the-art guidance

E. Installation

Unless otherwise specified in this Manual, mound systems shall be installed following the procedures and specifications delineated in the [Recommended Standards and Guidance for Performance, Application, Design, and Operation & Maintenance Mound Systems \(Washington State Department of Health, July 2012\) Mound System Manual, in its current final draft form or as hereafter adopted and updated by the State Water Resources Control Board](#). Copies of the *Mound System Manual* will be maintained and provided by the LEA.

- 1. Cap and Topsoil Depth
  - a. The cover soil must be capable of maintaining vegetative growth while not impeding the passage of air (sandy loam or coarser) and be contoured and landscaped in accordance with the approved construction plan and permit requirements in order to shed water, control erosion and to prevent surface drainage onto the sand filter.
  - b. The final settled depth of the cap and topsoil should be no less than 12 inches above the center and 6 inches above the outer edge of the bed. Additional depth of topsoil may be needed during final construction activities to assure that the minimum depths are achieved following natural settling of the soil.
  - c. The mound must not be left without a vegetative cover or allowed to be covered with weeds. Mowed turf grass and turf sod are the best vegetative covers for mounds.
- F. Mound Placement
  - 1. On sloping sites, the mound must be aligned with its longest dimension parallel to the site contours so as not to concentrate the effluent into a small area as it moves laterally down slope.



- (ii) A setback of 200 feet is maintained between the seepage pit and any surrounding well; and
  - (iii) Vertical separation to anticipated groundwater is increased by 50%.
- (2) When the owner of the system being repaired declares a financial hardship and records a deed stating that the onsite wastewater system is being repaired in a manner that is nonconforming with the requirements of this Manual and acknowledges that additional treatment will be required at the time of repair:

Purpose: To update reference to UPC, PLUS to increase consistency with UPC, PLUS to encourage use of graywater systems by streamlining processes

#### Chapter 18. Graywater Reuse

##### A. Adoption by Reference.

The provisions for graywater systems specified in the ~~2015 Uniform Plumbing Code~~, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 5, Chapter ~~16A, Part 1 (Graywater Standards)~~ Alternative Water Sources for Nonpotable Applications are hereby adopted by reference and incorporated herein as minimum standards for graywater systems, unless otherwise noted in the Section.

Note: Kitchen wastewater must be excluded from graywater systems and discharged into an approved wastewater system.

- B. No graywater system shall be approved, designed, constructed, or maintained ~~except for residences that are owner-occupied~~ unless a person or entity has been identified to operate and maintain the system in accordance with the requirements specified in the Uniform Plumbing Code.
- C. No person shall construct or maintain a graywater system unless ~~the residence is served by a~~ the structure is serviced by a non-failing on-site wastewater system ~~verified by the LEA~~ sufficiently sized to accommodate the full daily wastewater load generated those using the structure.
- D. LEA Registration, Review, and Permitting Requirements
  - 1. Graywater systems identified as Clothes Washer Systems in the Uniform Plumbing Code (systems designed to reuse only laundry waste) require prior plan review and approval by only registration with the LEA.
  - 2. Graywater systems identified as Simple Systems in the Uniform Plumbing Code (systems designed to reuse 240 gallons per day or less of graywater) will require only registration and plan review by the LEA.
  - ~~3.~~ Graywater systems identified as Complex Systems in the Uniform Plumbing Code (systems designed to reuse over 240 gallons per day of graywater) will require a Construction Permit issued by the LEA.



Purpose: To encourage use of graywater systems by streamlining processes

- ~~2-4.~~ Unless otherwise authorized by the LEA, review of all other graywater systems require-requiring a Construction Permit. ~~Review of the Construction Permit~~ will include:
- ~~a.~~ Soil evaluation or percolation testing as described in Part One of this Manual in the manner specified by the LEA as appropriate for the intended use;
  - ~~b.~~ Design submitted by a qualified professional;
  - ~~a-c.~~ System operational manual as specified in Part Four of this Manual;
  - ~~b.~~ ~~Design review~~
  - ~~e-d.~~ Inspection of construction by the LEA.
- ~~2-5.~~ Except for removal of solids from a septic tank by a certified pumper, no person shall service or replace an approved graywater system's components without first notifying the LEA so that parcel files can be updated, trends in equipment reliability can be tracked, and so that the person can be advised of any technical up-dates relevant to service that will be provided.

#### Chapter 19. Requirements for the Repair/Replacement of Failing Systems

When on-site wastewater system repairs are made, the system must be brought into compliance with the provisions specified in the new On-Site Wastewater Systems Ordinance and On-Site Wastewater Manual "...to the maximum extent feasible."

The following guidance outlines how this requirement is to be interpreted; however the EH Director may consider exceptions based on unique circumstances.

- A. Any on-site wastewater system that has been permitted by this office will not be required to upgrade to current standards as long as the system does not fail, resulting in backup of sewage into the structure being served or surfacing sewage.
- B. Septic Tank
  - 1. Upgrade to current tank capacity standards<sup>8</sup> will be required when either:
    - a. The existing tank is significantly undersized, substandard in construction, or located with inadequate setbacks to prevent maintenance; or
    - b. The existing tank is found to be leaking.
  - 2. Existing septic tanks will be considered significantly undersized and must be brought up to current standards when the tank volume is less than the minimum volume shown in the following table:

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<sup>8</sup> Current standards require a 1,500 gallon septic tank for up to a 4-bedroom residence and an additional 200 gallons for each bedroom thereafter.



On-Site Wastewater Manual – Part 3 – System Requirements

Adopted March 16, 2010

Updated August 24, 2010, December 11, 2012, and March 24, 2015

Part Three \*\* Page 44

area in relationship to bottom area, bed systems wider than 4 ft need to be increased in size by 50%. If pressurized distribution is utilized the size will only need to be increased by 25% (based on a 50% increase per the UCR, minus the 25% credit for the use of pressurized distribution).

4. Special construction considerations:

- a. Beds should be constructed only when the soil will not seal or compact during installation
- b. No excavation equipment, including tracked vehicles, shall be used on or over the bed

Purpose: To provide options for installers designing system repairs where there is minimal area for a replacement system

H. Installation of Drainfield Under Driveway

The dispersal field may be installed beneath a driveway when no other placement alternative exists, including the removal and alteration of landscaping and/or the use of a pump, and the following conditions are met:

1. The must be assessed and the system designed by a Certified Designer that specifically addresses the issue of:
  - a. Soil compaction;
  - b. Lack of aeration conditions within the soil;
  - c. Potential for crushing the dispersal pipe or chamber;
  - d. Adverse impact on reduction on evapotranspiration; and
  - e. Required future alternatives if the repair system fails at some time in the future.
2. Alternatives for consideration could include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Use of supplemental treatment;
  - b. Use of pressurized distribution;
  - c. Use of pervious concrete;
  - d. Use of pipe and drainrock or gravelless chambers for sites with deep, well-drained soil;
- 5-3. Whenever a dispersal field is installed beneath a driveway, the Certified Designer will need to incorporate into their analysis a written construction plan with sufficient detail to verify that construction activity associated with replacement of the driveway surface will not adversely impact the soil where the dispersal field will be placed; and

## Proposed Changes to Manual - Part Five



Purpose: To establish a new Part of the Manual for monitoring and reporting to the Water Board as required by AB 885

## Part Five: Environmental Monitoring and Reporting

### Chapter 1. Reporting Requirements

#### A. Annual Report

1. The LEA will prepare and submit an annual report to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board no later than February 1 for the preceding year beginning one year after Regional Board approves the LAMP.
2. The annual report will include:
  - a. Certified ~~Septage~~ Pumpers: Applications and registrations issued as part of the local cleaning registration pursuant to California Health and Safety Code §117400 et seq.
  - b. New and Repaired or Replaced On-site Wastewater Systems: Numbers and locations of permits.
  - c. Complaints: Numbers and locations of complaints, related investigations, and means of resolution.
  - d. Describe how variations to the requirements in the Manual will be tracked and reported.
  - e. Summary of any changes adopted by the Board of Supervisors to either the Ordinance or the Manual

#### B. Five-Year Report

Every fifth year an evaluation report will be included that:

1. Evaluates of trends in nitrates found in domestic wells
2. Analysis of water quality data from public water systems up to 200 service connections.
3. Includes a reference to nitrate levels being monitored within the Chico Nitrate Compliance Area and analyzed by a consultant

#### C. Report Format

1. Groundwater monitoring data will be submitted in Electronic Delivery Format (EDF) for Geotracker.



## On-Site Wastewater Manual – Part 5 – Monitoring and Reporting

Draft October 22, 2-15

Part Five \*\* Page 3

2. All surface water data will be submitted to California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN).

### Chapter 2. Record Retention and Availability

- A. Describe your program for permanently retaining records, and means of making them available to Central Valley Water Board staff within 10 working days of a written request.

### Chapter 3. Water Supplier Notification

- A. The LEA will notify public well and water intake owners, and the California Department of Public Health as soon as practicable, but no later than 72 hours upon discovery of a failing OWTS within the setbacks specified in the On-Site Wastewater Manual Part 3 Chapter 2 ([#Manual\\_Setbacks](#)).