

ON-SITE WASTEWATER SURVEY

Jurisdiction:	Glenn County
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Interviewer:	Tom Loushine
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I. Permit Process and Design Requirements

A. Permits required for:

1. New Construction on Existing Parcels

a. Permit process

- Are there separate site evaluation and system construction applications?

Permit application.

- What are the steps through the process?

Test hole inspection, permit, final inspection.

- How long are site evaluations valid?

No limit.

- How long are construction permits valid?

1 year

b. Design Flow

- What is used as the daily design flow per bedroom for single family residences?

1-2 b/r: 150 gal; 3rd: + 150 gal; 75 gal/b/r thereafter.

- How are design flows determined for other types of development?

Table of other types of development.

c. Septic Tank Sizing

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- What are your septic tank sizing requirements per bedroom for single family residences?

1-2 b/r: 1000 gal; 3-4: 1200 gal; 5-6: 1500 gal; +150 gal/B/R thereafter.
Also tank formula in Manual of Septic-Tank Practice.

- How is septic tank sizing determined for other types of development?

Formula in manual.

- Are septic tanks inspected or certified for water tightness?

Rely on manufacturer spec for tightness.

d. Minimum Lot Size?

Orland: 2 acre min; other areas: 1 acre.

- Governed by General Plan and Zoning?

General Plan

- Wastewater Ordinance?

They have one; it does not govern lot size.

e. Slope

- Is there a maximum slope?

Not aware of any. What is it?

f. Soil

They apply a Class System. Classes 1-4 indicate perc rates up to 60 mpi. If class 5 (>60mpi), then engineered system, even if gravity system. No system for > 249 mpi.

- What is the range of allowable soil textures?

- What is the range of allowable percolation rates?

As above.

- Do you rely on textural classification, perc tests, or both

Both

- Are perc tests optional or mandatory?

If soil appears > 60 mpi, then percs required.

g. Vertical Separation or Total Effective Soil Depth

- Are your system design requirements based on soil maps, vertical separation, depth of effective soil, or a combination?

Soil maps and profiles, and percs if required due to profile findings.

- What are your vertical separation and/or effective soil requirements for gravity systems?

Class 2 – 5'; class 3 – 4'; class 4 – 3'. 2' depends on the area as soils become slower to perc.

- For alternative systems?

Same

- Do you distinguish between perched, seasonal water table in measuring vertical separation?

Water is water.

h. Groundwater

- Do you rely on evaluation of the soil profile or winter monitoring to determine presence of groundwater?

Case by case – if known high GW area, or problem area, then winter GW monitoring.

i. System Design

- Who determines Type of System, county staff, a consultant, both?

County if < 60 mpi. If > 60mpi, engineer.

2. Creating New Parcels through Subdivision Process

- Is minimum lot sized determined by wastewater requirements or by the General Plan and Zoning?

By Plan and for Orland – 2 acre min and other areas - 1 acre

- Does your sewage regulation have minimum lot sizes?

If so, how are they determined and what are they? No

- Does your regulation have requirements for minimum useable drainfield areas?

Based on soils work, profiles and percs. Must have room for new and replacement area.

- Are there more stringent requirements for subdivisions than for existing parcels in the following areas:

Same

- Allowable soil texture
- Allowable percolation rate
- Required vertical separation or total effective soil depth?
- Maximum slope?

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- Use of supplemental treatment to allow creation of new parcels?
- Required setbacks?
- Are determinations of nitrogen or phosphorous loading required?

No

3. Repair

- Are system repairs brought up to code to the maximum extent allowed by the site?

Yes, repair as best can be done.

- Are there differences in site evaluation procedures?

Same - test holes

- Are there less stringent requirements for repairs than for existing parcels in the following areas:

Could be, if less area available than would be required.

- Allowable soil texture
- Allowable percolation rate
- Required vertical separation or total effective soil depth?
- Maximum slope?
- Use of supplemental treatment to allow creation of new parcels?

- Are there differences in who may design a repair system?

If Class 5 (>60 mpi), then engineer. Otherwise, EH staff.

II. Designer Certification

- Who can design standard, gravity systems?
 - Certified Engineering Geologist? Yes
 - Certified Professional Soil Scientist? Yes
 - Registered Civil Engineer? Yes
 - Registered Environmental Health Specialist? Yes
 - Registered Geologist? Yes
 - Other Consultant Certified by Environmental Health? Yes
 - Contractor? Yes
 - Homeowner? No
 - County REHS staff? Yes

- Who can design supplemental treatment systems? Engineer
 - Certified Engineering Geologist? Yes
 - Certified Professional Soil Scientist? Yes
 - Registered Civil Engineer? Yes
 - Registered Environmental Health Specialist? Yes
 - Registered Geologist? Yes
 - Other Consultant Certified by Environmental Health? Yes
 - Contractor? No
 - Homeowner? No
 - County REHS staff? No
- How does County assure that someone submitting a design is qualified to design a specific type of system?

Professional stamp, license.

- Will the County require certification of system construction by designer? Yes
- Will the County require inspection of system construction by designer? Yes

III. Installation Requirements

A. Installers

- Who may install standard and alternative systems? As above
- Is the homeowner allowed to install either or both of these types of systems?

Standard – yes; Alternative - yes

- Do you certify installers? No

B. Inspections

- Does County staff inspect all components of an installation? Yes
- Does County staff meet with the installer on the site or consult with the installer prior to initiation of the installation?

Usually for soil review.

- How many installation inspections by staff for installation of a standard, gravity system?

Before permit for soil review, and final inspection.

- How many installation inspections by staff for installation of a sand filter?

Could be several for step by step inspection.

C. As-Built Requirements

- Does the installer provide an as-built drawing? Yes
- Who provides the as-built drawing for a supplemental treatment system?

The engineer.

D. Certification of Completion

- How does the county provide final approval of the system and its installation?

Final Certification.

- Is the designer required to inspect and certify the installation as meeting the requirements of the design?

Yes

- Does the installer certify the completion of the system per the design?

Verbally by calling for inspection.

IV. Renewable Operating Permits

- Are ROPs required for the following?
 - Existing systems?

A letter from the owner is required indicating who the O&M contractor is. Upon expiration or termination of the contract, another letter is required. This is applicable to only the more complex and large community systems, not simple standard systems.

- Standard gravity trench
- Pump to gravity
- Pressure dosed
- Supplemental treatment

V. Operation and Maintenance Program

- Does your county have an O&M program?

Yes for alternative system.

- Who performs the O&M inspections?

3rd party contractor.

- Service providers certified by the county? No
- Services provides certified by the proprietary manufacturer? No
- Septic tank pumpers?

No, but licensed installers are acceptable.

- Home owners? No
- Professional engineers? Yes

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- Consultants other than engineers? Yes
- County staff primarily? No
- What types of systems receive O&M inspections?
 - Existing systems?
If large pump systems.
 - Standard gravity trench No
 - Pump to gravity Yes
 - Pressure dosed Yes
 - Supplemental treatment Yes

VI. Appeal/Variance Process

- What are the major steps in your appeal/variance process?

Board of Supervisors

- Who makes the final decision?

Board of Supervisors