

# ON-SITE WASTEWATER SURVEY

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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?

Not at this time

- What are the steps through the process?
- How long are site evaluations valid?
- How long are construction permits valid?

One year

##### b. Design Flow

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

150 gallons per bedroom

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

EPA manual

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### c. Septic Tank Sizing

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

2-3 1200 4-6 1500

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

Using manual of septic tank practice

- Are septic tanks inspected or certified for water tightness?

No

### d. Minimum Lot Size?

- Governed by General Plan and Zoning? Yes

- Wastewater Ordinance? Yes

### e. Slope

- Is there a maximum slope? What is it?

30 %

### f. Soil

- What is the range of allowable soil textures?

No certain restrictions except bedrock

- What is the range of allowable percolation rates?

5 to 60

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

Residential only textural

- Are perc tests optional or mandatory?

Optional

### 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?

Soils maps give us a preliminary estimate. If the client decides to use it we go with that. If the client disputes it, as with ground water, an onsite evaluation is done. We do not use effective soil depth (I understand this to be texture combined with vertical distance)

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

5 foot

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➤ For alternative systems?

2 foot with pretreatment plus pressure dose, 4 foot pressure dose

➤ Do you distinguish between perched, seasonal water table in measuring vertical separation? No

h. Groundwater

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

Mostly soil profile and soils map

i. System Design

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

Both

2. Creating New Parcels through Subdivision Process

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

Waste water requirements are priority

➤ 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?

12,000 sq feet for 60 mpi etc. is in our ordinance. Frankly, I do not know how this is applied.

➤ Are there more stringent requirements for subdivisions than for existing parcels in the following areas: No

○ 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?

Would not allow variances with supplemental treatment as some have proposed. Example, allow for decrease set back to wells.

○ Required setbacks?

➤ Are determinations of nitrogen or phosphorous loading required?

No. Good idea though

3. Repair

- Are system repairs brought up to code to the maximum extent allowed by the site? Yes
- Are there differences in site evaluation procedures? No
- Are there less stringent requirements for repairs than for existing parcels in the following areas:

Yes, I would say for all the below.

- 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? No

**II. Designer Certification**

- Who can design standard, gravity systems?

All the below

- Certified Engineering Geologist?
- Certified Professional Soil Scientist?
- Registered Civil Engineer?
- Registered Environmental Health Specialist?
- Registered Geologist?
- Other Consultant Certified by Environmental Health?
- Contractor?
- Homeowner?
- County REHS staff?
- Who can design supplemental treatment systems? *We have allowed these*
  - Certified Engineering Geologist? Yes
  - Certified Professional Soil Scientist?
  - Registered Civil Engineer? Yes
  - Registered Environmental Health Specialist? Yes
  - Registered Geologist?

- Other Consultant Certified by Environmental Health?
- Contractor?
- Homeowner?
- County REHS staff?
- How does County assure that someone submitting a design is qualified to design a specific type of system?

By the certification as a professional and experience

- 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?

Licensed contractors, A, C-36, C-42

- Is the homeowner allowed to install either or both of these types of systems?

Standard only.

- Do you certify installers? No

#### B. Inspections

- Does County staff inspect all components of an installation?

Most components

- Does County staff meet with the installer on the site or consult with the installer prior to initiation of the installation? No

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

One

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

For a sandfilter pressure dose system we do 4 or more inspections. depth to high ground water, sandfilter liner and sand quality, absorption trench depth, pump and alarms test

#### C. As-Built Requirements

- Does the installer provide an as-built drawing? No

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- Who provides the as-built drawing for a supplemental treatment system?

Environmental Health Specialist

### D. Certification of Completion

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

Sign off by designer and Environmental Health Specialist

- 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?

No

## IV. Renewable Operating Permits

- Are ROPs required for the following? No

- Existing systems?
- Standard gravity trench
- Pump to gravity
- Pressure dosed
- Supplemental treatment

## V. Operation and Maintenance Program

- Does your county have an O&M program? No

- Who performs the O&M inspections? N/A

- Service providers certified by the county?
- Services provides certified by the proprietary manufacturer?
- Septic tank pumpers?
- Home owners?
- Professional engineers?
- Consultants other than engineers?
- County staff primarily?

- What types of systems receive O&M inspections?

None

- Existing systems?
- Standard gravity trench

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- Pump to gravity
- Pressure dosed
- Supplemental treatment

### VI. Appeal/Variance Process

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

Handled by review with lead specialist and director

- Who makes the final decision?

Director