

Calaveras County Environmental Management Agency Onsite Sewage Department News Bulletin

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On July 2, 2007, the Onsite Sewage Division was transferred from the Community Development Agency to the Environmental Management Agency. Onsite sewage joins the agency which also houses Environmental Health, Agriculture and Weights & Measures and the Air Pollution Control District and is considered as its own department under the Agency umbrella.

Most recently, County Code Chapter 13.12 (Sewage Disposal-Unincorporated Areas) was revised. This revision allows for a new appeals process and makes several administrative changes. The regulations as adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 1992 and amended in 1993 and 1994 remain unchanged at this time however these too may be revised in the near future.

Staff continues to await the outcome of the AB 885 regulations that will undoubtedly have a significant impact on onsite construction and development throughout the State of California. The following timeline is provided for your review:

April 15 thru June 15: Scientific Peer Review and comment assessment

June 15 thru Aug. 15: Final Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) and Fiscal Impact Statement (STD 399);

Aug. 1 thru Oct. 1: Department of Finance (DOF) review and decision on our Fiscal Impact Statement (STD 399);

Oct. 1 thru Dec. 1: Public Comment Period on DEIR, Proposed Regulations, and Draft Waiver of WDRs;

Dec. 1 thru Feb. 15: Draft Comment Responses for FEIR, Proposed Rule, and Draft Waiver;

Feb. 15 thru April 1: Comment Period on FEIR package (FEIR, Findings), Proposed Rule and Draft Waiver with adoption of all (changed, unchanged, all together different) at the end of this period;

April 1 thru May 1: Record review by Office of Administrative Law;

May 1, 2008: Rule becomes effective;

Nov. 2008: Implementation of the Rules.

*Government Center, 891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA 95249-9709
Environmental Management Agency – Onsite Sewage Department
(209) 754-6400 Fax (209) 754-6722*

The preview draft of the proposed regulations of the onsite systems regulations at www.swrcb.ca.gov/ab885/docs/ab885_drafrule.pdf was last posted by the state in March. There will likely be changes to this draft as a result of the reviews.

As a reminder, all onsite sewage permits are now issued on the bottom floor of the second brick building in the Government Center Complex downstairs from the Building and Planning Departments.