



# *Calaveras County Environmental Management Agency Onsite Sewage Department News Bulletin*

10/26/07

Bulletin #02-07

This news bulletin covers five topics of interest that include:

### **Adoption of Planning Setback Variance Ordinance**

On October 23, 2007, the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 2923 as it applies to zoning setback requirements. This ordinance will take effect 30 days from the date of its adoption. Once effective, zoning setbacks will be consistent with onsite setbacks as defined in Title 13, Chapter 13.12 of County Code with the exception of the placement of septic tanks. Septic tanks previously were allowed to be placed within 5 feet of a property line. As a result of the adoption of the new ordinance, the septic tank shall maintain at least a 10 foot front and corner property line setback.

### **Study Session Updating the Board of Supervisors on Onsite Sewage Department Activities and Proposed Fee Revision**

A study session will be held at the Board of Supervisors Chambers at Government Center on November 20, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. for purposes of updating the Board on the status of the Onsite Sewage Department since its transfer to the Environmental Management Agency. A new fee proposal will also be addressed. This study session is open to the public.

### **Placement of Onsite Septic Systems and Cal/Fire Requirements**

We would like to make all property owners, engineers, septic installers, realtors, etc. aware of the Cal/Fire (formally CDF) rules for tree removal when installing or repairing septic systems.

On parcels less than 3 acres in size, an exemption permit must be obtained to remove **any** tree, needed for improvements including, but not limited to, driveways, utility lines, out buildings and **septic systems**. This permit is required whether or not the trees are sold, bartered, exchanged or traded.

Be sure to consult your local foresters for more information. Our forester for Calaveras County is Thomas Tinsley, RPF and he may be reached at 209-754-3831.

### **Title 13, Chapter 13.12 Sewage Disposal-Unincorporated Areas – Clarification on Permit Extensions**

As a reminder, any permittee holding an unexpired permit may apply for an extension of the time within which he may commence work under that permit or complete work under that permit. Unless issued prior to August 7, 2007, no permit shall be extended more than once. The agency

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administrator may extend the time for action by the permittee for a period not to exceed three hundred sixty-five days upon written request by the permittee. Such request for extension shall be subject to conformance with regulations in force at the time of extension request. In addition, the permittee shall pay any incremental increase in permit fees beyond those already paid.

In order to renew work on a permit after expiration, the permittee shall pay a new permit fee, provided the plans conform to current regulations; and provided further, that the permit has not been expired for a period of more than three hundred sixty-five days.

### **Onsite Sewage Department Website**

The Onsite Sewage Department website is up and running! While additional information will be added to this site from time to time, you may access the site to access the following information:

- [OSS Fee Schedule 2007](#)
- [Procedures for Obtaining a Permit](#)
- [Plot Plan Requirements](#)
- [Administrative Variance Form](#)
- [OSS News Bulletin September 2007](#)

In order to access the site, go to [www.co.calaveras.ca.us](http://www.co.calaveras.ca.us); click on Departments; click on Environmental Management; click on Onsite Sewage Department.