

The latest Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems rules and regulations were adopted by the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors on September 7, 2010. As the previous revision to the regulations last took place in 1994, changes to the new regulations were very comprehensive. As designated in the in the 1994 revision, Volume I addresses *Development Standards* and Volume II addresses *Design Standards*. Some of the more significant changes include the following:

Definitions

Several new or revised definitions were added to the regulations including, but not limited to, "Advanced Treatment Unit", "Bedroom" (re-defined), "Effluent", "Loft", "Onsite Wastewater Treatment System(s)" OWTS's , "OWTS Inspector" and "Qualified Professional" to name a few. (See pages, 3-12)

Permits - General

An OWTS Permit shall not be issued if a wastewater delivery system is within 200 feet distance from the residence or when a wastewater district requires connection to the public sewer within a sewer service area (community service area) unless otherwise approved by the District responsible for the wastewater system. (See page, 13)

Minor and Major Permits

Repairs have been broken into Minor and Major repair scenarios. All major repairs require a permit. Under minor repair scenarios, the following applies:

- a. A minor repair is considered any alteration, repair, maintenance or replacement of solid piping within a standard, gravity OWTS. Electrical and mechanical components that may also be repaired/replaced are not considered a minor repair and do not require a permit. Installation of cleanouts does not require a permit.
- b. Any minor repair that includes the building sewer between the structure and the inlet to the septic tank does not require a permit. Installation or replacement of septic tank risers that do not affect the performance or integrity of the tank also does not require a permit.
- c. Any minor repair that includes the gravity tightline between the septic tank and the first distribution box or disposal trench shall require a permit. All gravity tightlines between all disposal trenches requires a permit.

When a repair permit is issued, only that portion or component of the existing system that is failing or causing the failure shall be required to be repaired. Issuance of a permit for repair must be accompanied by written determination and confirmation by the homeowner, qualified professional or OWTS inspector. (See pages, 22-23)

One Bedroom Expansion

Expansion of an existing gravity OWTS that would not otherwise meet current code at the time of a proposed expansion must be upgraded to meet the current regulations. The Agency Administrator may grant an exception to this requirement on a case by case basis if: the existing system is found to be functioning adequately, the addition is equivalent to not more than one (1) bedroom and the plumbing has been modified to include the addition and installation of low flow fixtures. *(See page, 16)*

Setbacks

Setback requirements have been modified and include, but are not limited to, Utility/Road easements. *(See page, 41)*

Advanced Treatment Systems

Recognized Advanced Treatment Systems include Intermittent Sand or other Supplemental Treatment System as approved by the Department. Other Advanced Treatment Systems may include, but are not limited to, aerobic systems as considered by the Department on a case by case basis. *(See page, 58)*

Experimental Systems

Experimental systems now include now include subsurface drip/drip systems. *(See pages, 63-64)*

General

The new package is designed to be a living document and updated on an annual or bi-annual basis.

The new regulations will incorporate new statewide standards by reference.