Environmental Management

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A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF SEWAGE SYSTEM PERMITS

Individuals proposing to utilize a septic system to serve a building must secure a sewage permit from this office before clearance for issuance of a building permit can be given. The following requirements must be met before a sewage permit may be secured:

1. An approved site evaluation (soil percolation test) must be on file with our office. If minimum percolation and soil depth standards are not met, an alternative sewage treatment system (ASTS) may be required.

2. One copy of the property's site plans stamped by the building department is required. The building department routinely routes these to our department; you should not have to request that this be done.

3. If the site requires an ASTS, the system must be designed by an engineer or REHS and plans submitted to this office for review.

4. For conventional sewage disposal systems, a plot plan drawn to scale showing all of the following items:
   - An accurate plot plan with owner's name, address, APN (Assessor's Parcel Number), and date showing the property lines with the North arrow indicated. If the property is a large parcel, provide a magnified portion of the development area as well. Also show improvements and septic reserve areas on adjoining parcels.
   - Location of proposed buildings and existing buildings.
   - Location of proposed septic tank, leach field and required 100% expansion (reserve) area.
   - An indication of the slope of the land and direction.
   - Location of existing wells and springs and proposed future well sites.
   - Location of all streams, drainage ditches, ponds, lakes, drainage swales or the Napa River either on the parcel or within 200 feet of the perimeter of the proposed septic system and reserve areas.
   - Location of all public and private roadways, driveways, right-of-ways, etc.
   - Location of site evaluation test pits.

5. The liquid capacity of septic tanks shall conform to Napa County Code section 13.44.020 as determined by the number of potential bedrooms (or 150 gallon per day equivalents). Discuss septic tank sizes for commercial projects with your district inspector. Special requirements may apply.

Potential Bedrooms	Liquid Capacity of Septic Tank (minimum)
1 to 4	1,200 gallons
5 or 6	1,500 gallons

   Septic tank capacity shall be two hundred fifty (250) gallons per bedroom in excess of the number listed.

6. If the permit is to be issued to a contractor, then it must be signed by the contractor or an authorized agent of said contractor. If an authorized agent of the contractor is signing the permit, an Authorized Agent form must be filed with this department. Contractors must have a current Workman's Compensation Insurance certificate on file with this office. Contractors must possess a C-42 license, a General A Engineering license, or be a general building contractor.

7. Please contact our department for the appropriate fees. Please make all checks payable to the County of Napa.

8. A water supply must be developed and tested in advance of securing the sewage permit. If a public water system is going to serve the development, evidence of approval of such service must be submitted before a sewage permit can be secured.

CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Feature	**Tight line – sewer line, effluent line**	**Septic Tank, Dosing Tank, D-Box**	**Dispersal Field, Reserve dispersal area**
Wells[1], springs, abandoned wells, wells destroyed prior to February 2004	25 feet (50 feet if not of approved building sewer materials)	100 feet	100 feet
Bays, creeks, streams, rivers (watercourse is identified as a blue line[2] on the USGS map).	50 feet	50 feet	100 feet
Streams, creeks, unlined ditches, unlined canals, unlined culverts (watercourse is not identified on USGS map as a blue line)	10 feet	25 feet	25 feet
Impervious lined ditches, lined canals, lined culverts, or watertight culverts or conduits	5 feet	10 feet	10 feet
Lake or Reservoir –drinking water source	50 feet	200 feet	200 feet
Lake or Reservoir – non drinking water source, non engineered berms	50 feet	50 feet	100 feet
Lake or Reservoir – non drinking water source, engineered berms	10 feet	25 feet	50 feet
Property line	5 feet	10 feet	10 feet
Structures and Foundations, including footings[3]	N/A	5 feet	10 feet
Cave- at higher elevation from sewage disposal system	N/A	5 feet	10 feet
Cave – at equal or lower elevation from sewage disposal system	N/A	100 feet	100 feet[4]
Swimming pool	5 feet	10 feet	25 feet
Areas subject to vehicular traffic – private or public road	See County Road Setback Ordinance	See County Road Setback Ordinance	See County Road Setback Ordinance
Driveways or others areas subject to vehicular traffic not defined as a public or private road	0 feet if properly bedded	5 feet	5 feet
Cut or fill banks, cuts, or steep slopes	10 feet	10 feet	4 X height (100 foot maximum)
Easements[5] or right of ways	5 feet	10 feet	10 feet
Water line – Public	10 feet	10 feet	10 feet
Water line - Private	1 foot	5 feet	10 feet
Underground irrigation or drainage systems (water tight piping)	1 foot	5 feet	10 feet
Underground irrigation or drainage system (non water tight piping)	25 feet	25 feet	50 feet

Notes
(1) These distances may be reduced as provided for in Section 13.12.350.
(2) Blue line shall mean any type of blue line on a USGS map.
(3) Including porches and steps, whether covered or uncovered, breezeways, roof patios, carports, covered walkways, covered driveways, and similar structures and appurtenances.
(4) This distance to be increased to 1500 feet if the sewage disposal system does not comply with the standards in this code.
(5) Unless easement is specifically for an onsite sewage disposal system.

For additional set back requirements or explanations of the above, contact your district inspector.