



County of Santa Cruz

Health Services Agency - Environmental Health



701 Ocean Street, Room 312, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
 (831) 454-2022 TDD/TTY - Call 711 <http://www.sceeh.org>
Landuse@santacruzcountyca.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUILDING CLEARANCE

APPROVED

DENIED

REHS:	DATE:	PE#:	FA #	SR#:
Site Address:				APN:
Property Owner's Name:		Property Owner's Phone Number:		
Property Owner's Mailing Address:		City, State, Zip:		
Property Owner's Email Address:		Additional Email/Phone Number:		
Contact Person Information: (Name and title)		Contact Person Phone Number:		
Contact Person Mailing Address:		Contact Person Email Address:		

Required attachments:

- Pumping inspection report within the last 3 years for a major clearance (bedrooms, ADU, >500 sq. ft.)
- Pumping inspection report within the last 5 years for a minor clearance (<500 sq. ft., garage, pool, deck)
- Site plan with the onsite wastewater treatment system location and setbacks
- Floor plan of structure(s) showing existing and proposed additions

I certify under penalty of perjury that the forgoing information is true and correct and that the accompanying septic tank pumping inspection report is accurate for the subject sewage disposal system.

Applicant Name:	Applicant Signature:	Date:
-----------------	----------------------	-------

When approved by an authorized Environmental Health Staff, this application shall be deemed an Evaluation of the onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) from Environmental Health for only the work described below and is not a "permit for development" as that term is used in the California Subdivision Map Act. This Evaluation is limited to the following checked statement and is not to be construed as a warranty of proper operation or future life expectancy of the OWTS. An Environmental Health Building Clearance is valid for a period of 1 year from the date of issuance.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT:

Building Project description:

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUILDING CLEARANCE

Dwelling Type served by OWTS: (check all that apply)

Proposed addition or remodel

Existing structure only

Main Dwelling: Existing # of bedrooms: Additional # of bedrooms: Total =

Additional dwelling unit/THOW (Tiny House on Wheels): # of bedrooms:

Structure (Garage, office, barn, shop, studio, pool, pool house, retaining wall) (Circle all that apply)

Description of structure(s):

Commercial/Industrial/Institutional:

Type of Business:	Peak Daily Flow:
Number of People Using System: Existing:	Proposed:

Indicate the Water Source for the Parcel:

Public; indicate the water company/district name:

Private; indicate source: Individual Shared Mutual

Details of Onsite Wastewater Treatment System:

Enhanced treatment system: YES NO

Multiple systems on site: YES NO

Tank material:

Tank size in gallons: Pump chamber size in gallons:

Dispersal field type:

Rock Trench Seepage Pits Geoflow Drip Chambers

Dispersal field size (square feet):

APPLICATION STATUS DEFICIENCIES:

- OWTS tank capacity inadequate for proposed project
- Minimum setbacks not met
- Insufficient area set aside for future expansion area of dispersal area
- System failure noted on pumping inspection report or in field
- Other:

Environmental Health Specialist: _____

Date

Comments:

An **EVALUATION** is required for an existing onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) when any of the following occurs:

- Remodels or additions occur at a residence
- The exterior dimensions of any structure are increased; a new structure is proposed, potential bedrooms are increased or other items (such as pools, decks, concrete patios, or other items that require foundations or footings) are proposed to be built on a property on which an OWTS exists.
- Land use, plumbing, or occupancy changes are made which may have an impact on the system or its future expansion area.

Evaluation of an existing OWTS may also be performed at the request of certain lending institutions (e.g., FHA and VA) at the time a residence is sold.

If any of the situations noted below are discovered, a separate **SEWAGE DISPOSAL UPGRADE PERMIT** is required.

- a) It is determined the existing system is not adequate to service the proposed project.
- b) Proposed changes to the site intrude upon the physical location of the existing system or expansion area.
- c) A new septic tank, dispersal field, or sewer line (such as the addition of plumbing fixtures to an accessory structure) will be part of the project.

Dependent on the proposed project, the following documentation may be required:

1. Site Evaluation application of OWTS.
2. A Santa Cruz County Septic Tank Inspection Report, completed by a licensed liquid waste hauler within three years of the date of application. The report must state the size of the septic tank and conclude that the tank is structurally sound, and that the disposal system is operating satisfactorily. A flow test may be required as part of the pumping inspection. If a flow test is required by Environmental Health staff, the applicant must specifically request that from the pumping company.
3. Provide plans for review.
 - a. A complete floor plan of the structure (s) served by the septic tank system must be provided. Label all plumbing fixtures and uses of room (s). Show both the existing and proposed layout.
 - b. A site plan is also required and must show the details and locations of OWTS and future expansion. The site plan must show the different OWTS components including the septic tank, pump tank, dispersal area and future expansion area. The site plan should indicate slopes, property lines, trees, any water wells, drainage courses, water lines, driveways, retaining walls, road cuts, paved areas and all required setbacks.
4. All septic system component specifications must be provided so that the Land Use staff is able to determine the total absorption area. Specifically, leach line length (s) and representative width depth measurements must be provided. For seepage pits, the effective depth (total depth of the pit minus the earth cover) and the diameter must be provided. **NOTE:** This requirement may be waived for minor projects which result in a minimal impact on the existing OWTS.

NOTE: Crib sumps, marginal and failing septic systems are prohibited by the Santa Cruz County Code and are required to be repaired or upgraded under permit and inspected by Environmental Health.

The Evaluation will be approved if it is determined that:

1. The septic tank meets the minimum capacity and construction requirements.
2. The dispersal field is sized adequately and functioning properly; there is no visible evidence of recent failure; and there is adequate area available for expansion.
3. The OWTS complies with setback requirements.