APPLICATION PROCEDURES
ONSITE SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM: NEW SYSTEM

STEP 1 - APPLICATION
Submit a completed application for individual sewage disposal system (EHS 42-1). Please be sure that all the blanks are filled in. Incomplete information may result in a rejected or delayed permit application.

STEP 2 - SOIL REPORT:
Submit two copies of the soil engineering report, prepared by a registered civil or soils engineer. If the report is more than 12 months old, it will need to be re-certified by the engineer.

The natural ground slope of the disposal area, including the 100% expansion area, may not exceed 30% slope. Drywell (drywells) may be utilized only when leach lines are not feasible and must be installed and performance tested to meet the minimum requirement of dissipating five times the required septic tank capacity within 24 hours.

An acceptable report must include the following information:

a. A description of the methodology employed in the performance test.
b. A map showing location of tests and soil borings.
c. A table of data obtained from the performance test at each test location.
d. A deep boring log of the subsurface soil and groundwater conditions.
e. A statement that the soil zones tested will be those utilized by the installed system.
f. A statement that the test locations are representative of and applicable to the system location and area of 100% expansion.
g. A statement that the parcel can be developed as proposed with the designed private sewage disposal system and that said system can be expected to function satisfactorily, with routine use and periodic maintenance, without resultant future contamination of usable groundwater or water sources.
h. Compliance with Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Prohibitions (see attached). In the event this item cannot be complied with, the applicant shall submit sufficient engineering justification to the Regional Water Quality Control Board requesting waiver of appropriate provision(s). The applicant shall supply a copy of the Regional Water Quality Control Board’s determination to the County Environmental Health Services.

STEP 3 - SYSTEM DESIGN
All private sewage disposal systems are required to be designed by a registered civil or geotechnical engineer. The engineer’s design criteria must include a specific recommendation regarding the disposal method (leach lines or drywell) and the precise number, location and dimensions of the leach lines or drywell. This information shall also be shown on the plot plan with the engineer’s stamp and signature. Please note that drywell(s) are only permitted when leach lines have been determined to be not feasible by the engineer, with EHS concurrence. Alternative systems (mound or evapotranspiration systems) require special approval on a case-by-case-basis.

(SEE REVERSE SIDE)
STEP 4 - BUILDING PLANS:
This application must contain three copies of the building floor plan which shows all plumbing fixtures and three copies of a scaled plot plan (1”=20’, 1”=40’, or 1”=50’) with the proposed system drawn and stamped by the design engineer. The application must include two copies of the floor plan for the proposed structure(s). Non-residential systems require calculation of the total number of plumbing fixture units per Table 7-3 of the 1994 Uniform Plumbing Code and peak daily flow based on design flow rates in the Uniform Plumbing Code. Use of dry well will be permitted only when leach lines are determined not to be feasible by the soil engineer with concurrence of Environmental Health Service.
   a. All existing and proposed structures (including garage).
   b. Septic tank(s).
   c. Distribution box(es) - if required.
   d. Primary disposal system.
   e. 100% expansion area (Note: Non-residential system require construction of the 100% expansion area with an additional 100% area set aside for future expansion).
   f. Water wells within 300 feet of the sewage disposal system.
   g. Property lines, easements and all required setbacks.
   h. Trees.
   i. Exact location of all test holes and borings.
   j. Lakes, reservoirs or ponds. Streams or drainage courses (either intermittent or flowing).
   k. Rock outcroppings.
   l. All cut and fill areas, including road cuts, with approximate height.
   m. Contour lines or other indication of percent slope.
   n. Paved areas (including driveway and patios).
   o. Water lines (public mains and on-site distribution lines) and other underground utilities.
   p. Any existing sewage disposal system on the property.
   q. Public sewer lines - It is the applicant’s responsibility to determine the location of the nearest public sewer line. The appropriate local sewer agency should be contacted for this information. Private sewage disposal is not permitted if public sewer is available within 200 feet of the proposed building.

STEP 5 - PERMIT FEES
Pay the appropriate plan check and inspection fee, as determined by the fee schedule.

Note: After the permit is approved, a 24-hour notice is required for final inspection prior to backfill of excavations and trenches.

If you have any questions regarding your project, please call the Environmental Health Office in Santa Maria for projects located north of Camino Cielo. For south county sites, please call the Santa Barbara Office for information or assistance. A receptionist will direct you to the appropriate staff member based on the location of the proposed project. Regular office hours are 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

   North County   tele. 346-8460, fax 346-8485
   South County   tele. 681-4900, fax 681-4901

NOTE: The following are common problems which result in application processing delays:
   a. Incomplete or inaccurate information in the application.
   b. Failure to provide an acceptable soils report.
   c. Failure to pay the correct fee for the system proposed.
   d. Illegible plot plans or insufficient details provided, e.g., water lines and driveways not identified, contour lines without elevation.
   e. Inadequate lot size for the proposed system.
   f. Systems proposed under pavement.
   g. Improperly designed systems proposed in bedrock.