



**RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
AGENDA ITEM**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One

PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY  
District Four

MIKE ENNIS  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** April 10, 2018

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Celeste Perez PHONE: (559) 624-7010

**SUBJECT:** Amendments to the Ordinance Code (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)

**REQUEST(S):**

Request that the Board of Supervisors  
On April 10, 2018:

1. Introduce and waive the first reading of Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) as follows:
  - A. Pertaining to sections 7-01-1320 through 7-15-1575 regarding minimum lot size, set back, and testing requirements for onsite wastewater treatment systems under the local agency management program; and
2. Approve the Ordinance Amendment summaries and direct the Clerk of the Board to publish such summaries and to post a certified copy of the complete ordinance five (5) days prior to the Ordinance Amendment adoption date of April 24, 2018, as required by Government Code Section 25124 et. Seq.; and
3. Set the Public Hearing for April 24, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. or shortly thereafter as can be heard.

On April 24, 2018:

1. Hold a Public Hearing at 9:30 a.m. or shortly thereafter; and
2. Determine the Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Onsite Wastewater Treatments Systems (OWTS), including required amendments to the Ordinance Code, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 17 (Exemption for a

**SUBJECT:** Amendments to the Ordinance Code (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)  
**DATE:** April 10, 2018

- Certified State Regulatory Program); and
3. Waive the second reading and adopt the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) as follows:
    - A. Pertaining to sections 7-01-1320 through 7-15-1575 regarding minimum lot size, set back, and testing requirements for onsite wastewater treatment systems under the local agency management program; and
  4. Authorize the Chairman to sign any and all necessary Amendments under the Ordinance Code of Tulare County; and
  5. Direct the Clerk of the Board to publish once in the Visalia Times-Delta newspaper the summary of the ordinance amendments with the names of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the amendment and to post a certified copy of the full ordinance amending the Ordinance Code of Tulare County with the names of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the amendment, within fifteen (15) days as required by Section 25124 et. Seq; and
  6. Direct the Environmental Assessment Officer of the Tulare Resource Management Agency to file a Notice of Exemption with the Tulare County Clerk.

**SUMMARY:**

On February 6, 2018, The Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) was approved by the Board of Supervisors with the necessary textual Ordinance Amendments. The LAMP approval was subject to changes and approval by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), and shall be implemented before May 13, 2018. This revision to the original textual Ordinance Amendments by the Board of Supervisors includes minor amendments to the Subdivision Code, as requested by the Regional Water Board. Part VII, Chapter 1, Articles 1-9, "The Subdivision Map Act" Ordinance of Tulare County, pertaining to Sections 7-01-1320 through 7-15-1575. No changes were suggested by the Regional Water Board for Tulare County Ordinance Part IV, 8 Chapter 13, Articles 9, pertaining specifically to section 4-13-1520 (f).

As stated previously, the Tulare County LAMP is designed to protect groundwater sources and surface water bodies from contamination through the proper design, placement, installation, maintenance, and assessment of individual Septic Treatment Systems. The LAMP develops minimum standards for the treatment and ultimate disposal of sewage through the use of Septic Treatment Systems in non-sewered unincorporated areas of Tulare County. The LAMP will also expand the ability of the Resource Management Agency & the Environmental Health Division to permit and regulate alternative Septic Treatment Systems while protecting water quality and public health.

In accordance with California Government Code Section 25124 et. seq., the textual

**SUBJECT:** Amendments to the Ordinance Code (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)

**DATE:** April 10, 2018

amendment (PZC 18-003) requires that an ordinance summary be published five days prior to the hearing date. As such, this agenda item has been prepared and brought before the Board of Supervisors for its consideration.

The Tulare County OWTS Guidance Manual is currently being reviewed by the Environmental Health Division and will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for further consideration prior to May 13, 2018.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

There is no Net County Cost to the General Fund.


The cost to the prepare and implement the Tulare County LAMP is being collaboratively covered by the Resource Management Agency, Health & Human Services Agency and Water Resources Program's respective FY2017-18 adopted budgets.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the "Economic Well Being Initiative - to promote economic development opportunities, effective growth management and a quality standard of living" and "Quality of Life Initiative – to promote public health and welfare, educational opportunities, natural resource management and continued improvement of environmental quality." The Tulare County LAMP and OWTS Manual will help ensure OWTS are constructed, operated and maintained in a manner that protects the health and safety of County residents and the environment and in compliance with State law.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Washam  
Associate Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reed Schenke, P.E.  
Director

Cc: Auditor-Controller  
County Counsel  
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachment No. 1 – Summary Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County  
Attachment No. 2 – Board of Supervisors Resolutions 2018-0062 & 2018-0084  
Attachment No. 3 – Adopted Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)  
Attachment No. 4 – Full Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County  
Attachment No. 5 – Notice of Exemption

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENTS TO )  
THE ORDINANCE CODE (PZC 18-003) ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
AS REQUIRED BY THE LOCAL AGENCY ) Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (LAMP) )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD  
OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD ON APRIL 10, 2018, BY THE  
FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

\* \* \* \* \*

1. Introduced and waived the first reading of Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) as follows:
  - A. Pertaining to sections 7-01-1320 through 7-15-1575 regarding minimum lot size, set back, and testing requirements for onsite wastewater treatment systems under the local agency management program; and
2. Approved the Ordinance Amendment summaries and direct the Clerk of the Board to publish such summaries and to post a certified copy of the complete ordinance five (5) days prior to the Ordinance Amendment adoption date of April 24, 2018, as required by Government Code Section 25124 et. Seq.; and
3. Set the Public Hearing for April 24, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. or shortly thereafter as can be heard.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDMENTS TO )  
THE ORDINANCE CODE (PZC 18-003) ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
AS REQUIRED BY THE LOCAL AGENCY ) Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (LAMP) )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD  
OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD ON APRIL 24, 2018, BY THE  
FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

\* \* \* \* \*

1. Held a Public Hearing at 9:30 a.m. or shortly thereafter; and
2. Determined the Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Onsite Wastewater Treatments Systems (OWTS), including required amendments to the Ordinance Code, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 17 (Exemption for a Certified State Regulatory Program); and
3. Waived the second reading and adopted the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County (PZC 18-003) as required by the Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) as follows:
  - A. Pertaining to sections 7-01-1320 through 7-15-1575 regarding minimum lot size, set back, and testing requirements for onsite wastewater treatment systems under the local agency management program; and
4. Authorized the Chairman to sign any and all necessary Amendments under the Ordinance Code of Tulare County; and
5. Directed the Clerk of the Board to publish once in the Visalia Times-Delta newspaper the summary of the ordinance amendments with the names of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the amendment and to post a certified copy of the full ordinance amending the Ordinance Code of Tulare County with the names of

the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the amendment, within fifteen (15) days as required by Section 25124 et. Seq; and

6. Directed the Environmental Assessment Officer of the Tulare Resource Management Agency to file a Notice of Exemption with the Tulare County Clerk.

# **Attachment "1"**

## **Summary Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County**

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 25124(b) (1), THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TULARE COUNTY ORDINANCE PART 7, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLES 1-9, "THE SUBDIVISION MAP ACT" ORDINANCE OF TULARE COUNTY, PERTAINING TO SECTIONS 7-01-1320 THROUGH 7-15-1575 REGARDING MINIMUM LOT SIZE, SET BACK, AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS UNDER THE LOCAL AGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN.

#### SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

In furtherance of the County's adoption of the Local Agency Management Program, the proposed ordinance will amend Sections 7-01-1320 through 7-15-1575 to: (1) add language to the General Requirements for Lot site evaluations to be conducted for said lot's suitability for onsite sewage disposal. (2) In the Definition for Slope Area Diagrams "acceptable soils" to be characterized by those soils that have performed percolation tests and site evaluations for effluent area's depth to groundwater ratios. The definition of "poor soils" are those having inadequate percolation test results or inadequate soil structures. (3) Lots Size minimums of one acre. (4) Sewage Disposal is required to connect to sanitary sewer systems for lots within 200 feet of proposed building or drainage facilities of existing sewer systems. (5) New minimum setback distances required for Septic Tanks and Effluent Disposal Systems. (6) Sewage System Size requirements shall be governed by the On-Site Wastewater Guidance Manual to be approved by future Board Resolution. (7) Alternative Design Sewage Systems definition to include methods of treatment other than standard effluent disposal in native soil. (8) For Percolation Tests and Soil Borings, adding registered health specialist and certified soil scientist to list of qualified to conduct percolation and soil boring tests, adding language requiring test hole depths to be deeper than the bottom of dispersal bottom depths and within the most restrictive strata of useable soil depth, and that tests be conducted in accordance with *the California Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems and California Plumbing Code*.

The proposed regulations shall apply to Tulare County.



The ordinance herein summarized will be considered by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors on \_\_\_\_\_, at a regular meeting of said Board. At least five (5) days prior to \_\_\_\_\_, a certified copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance shall be posted in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and shall be available for public inspection at that location.

COUNTY OF TULARE

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA,  
County Administrative Officer/  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisor of  
Tulare County

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

# **Attachment “2”**

**Board of Supervisors Resolutions 2018-0062 &  
2018-0084**

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE LOCAL AGENCY )  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (LAMP) AND ) Resolution No. 2018-0062  
AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE CODE )  
OF TULARE COUNTY (PZC 18-001) )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR VANDER POEL, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR CROCKER, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 23, 2018, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SUPERVISORS CROCKER, VANDER POEL, SHUKLIAN, WORTHLEY, AND ENNIS  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE



ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: Michael C. Spata  
Deputy Clerk

\*\*\*\*\*

1. Introduced and waived the first reading of Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County as follows:
  - A. Pertaining to sections 7-01-1320 through 7-01-1740 regarding minimum lot size, set back, and testing requirements for onsite wastewater treatment systems under the local agency management program.
  - B. Pertaining to section 4-13-1520 for locating effluent systems near surface water intake points; and
2. Approved the Ordinance Amendment summaries and directed the Clerk of the Board to publish such summaries and to post a certified copy of the complete ordinance five (5) days prior to the Ordinance Amendment adoption date of February 6, 2018, as required by Government Code Section 25124 et. Seq.; and

3. Set the Public Hearing for February 6, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. or shortly thereafter as can be heard.

RMA

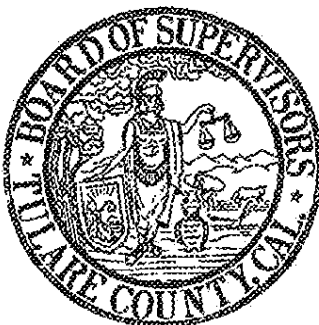
HAR  
1/23/2018

# BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE LOCAL AGENCY )  
 MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (LAMP) AND ) Resolution No. 2018-0084  
 AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE CODE ) Ordinance No. 3524 and 3525  
 OF TULARE COUNTY (PZC 18-001) )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR CROCKER, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR ENNIS, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2018, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: SUPERVISORS CROCKER, VANDER POEL, SHUKLIAN, WORTHLEY AND ENNIS  
 NOES: NONE  
 ABSTAIN: NONE  
 ABSENT: NONE



ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
 CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: Maya Ronello  
 Deputy Clerk

\*\*\*\*\*

On February 6, 2018:

1. Held a Public Hearing at 9:30 a.m. or shortly thereafter; and
2. Determined the Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Onsite Wastewater Treatments Systems (OWTS), including required amendments to the Ordinance Code, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 17 (Exemption for a Certified State Regulatory Program); and
3. Adopted the proposed Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP); and
4. Waived the second reading and adopted the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County as follows:

- A. Pertaining to sections 7-01-1320 through 7-01-1740 regarding minimum lot size, set back, and testing requirements for onsite wastewater treatment systems under the local agency management program.
  - B. Pertaining to section 4-13-1520 for locating effluent systems near surface water intake points; and
- 5. Authorized the Chairman to sign any and all necessary Amendments under the Ordinance Code of Tulare County; and
- 6. Directed the Clerk of the Board to publish once in the Visalia Times-Delta newspaper the summary of the ordinance amendments with the names of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the amendment and to post a certified copy of the full ordinance amending the Tulare County Ordinance Code No. No. 352 with the names of the Board of Supervisors voting for and against the amendment, within fifteen (15) days as required by Section 25124 et. Seq; and
- 7. Directed the Environmental Assessment Officer of the Tulare Resource Management Agency to file a Notice of Exemption with the Tulare County Clerk; and
- 8. Authorized the Director of the Resource Management Agency, or designee, to make appropriate clerical revisions to the Tulare County LAMP, Ordinance Amendments and associated project documents.

RMA

HAR  
2/6/2018

# **Attachment “3”**

## **Adopted Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)**

**Local Agency Management Program for  
Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems  
Tulare County, California**

**Tulare County  
County Administrative Office  
2800 W Burrel Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291**

<http://www.tularecounty.ca.gov/county/>

**Final Version**

**Adopted by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors**

**on February 6, 2018**

**Resolution Number 2018-0084**



## ***Introduction and Background***

### **Introduction**

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) are currently regulated by State law. California Water Code sections 13290 et. seq. authorize a local agency to adopt or retain regulations and standards for OWTS that are at least equally protective of the public health or the environment than state laws and regulations. This LAMP has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, dated June 19, 2012, also referred to as the "OWTS Policy", with the intention of obtaining the SWRCB and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) delegation to regulate OWTS in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Tulare County. This document presents the proposed Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) pertaining to the oversight of onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) within the County of Tulare, California.

While the Tulare County Health Officer has designated the Director of the Public Health Services Department as a Deputy Health Officer for the purpose of enforcing State and local environmental health law, the County of Tulare Resource Management Agency (RMA) and the Environmental Health Division (EHD) of the Health and Human Services Agency are the regulatory agencies that oversees (1) the design, installation, and operation of on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), (2) the management of non-discharging liquid waste systems, and (3) liquid waste dispersal requirements associated with land use modifications such as subdivisions, parcel splits, and lot line adjustments. The EHD regulates these elements within the various cities within Tulare County.

An OWTS may consist of tanks, treatment and dispersal components, and dispersal fields which are used to convey, treat, store, or dispose of potentially harmful wastewater when those wastewaters are not directly and immediately disposed of in a public sanitary sewer. The authority for the RMA and EHD to develop and adopt ordinances, regulations, and orders pertaining to environmental health and sanitation and the design and permitting of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems OWTS is established in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 101000 et seq. and the Ordinance Code of Tulare County Part IV, Chapters 1, 13 and 15 and Part VII, Chapters 1 and 15.

The enactment of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act in 1971 resulted in the formation of California State Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB). The RWQCBs are vested with the authority to require individuals or entities to obtain waste discharge requirements (WDRs) from the appropriate RWQCB if such individuals or entities intend to dispose of wastewater that has the potential to contaminate surface or groundwater. WDRs are designed to ensure that surface and/or groundwater is not impaired by wastewater discharges. RWQCBs may conditionally

waive WDRs for OWTS when a local enforcement agency (e.g. EHD) adopts and enforces regulations that protect water quality to a degree that is consistent with the applicable basin plan.

In accordance with the regulatory authority referenced above, the County of Tulare Board of Supervisors adopted the code entitled "California Plumbing Code, Title 24, California Code of Regulations, Part 5, 2016 Edition," together with appendices thereto, as published by the International Code Council, as adopted and modified by the State Building Standards Code by the State Building Standards Commission pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 17922, and as amended by the provisions of this Ordinance Code, is hereby referred to, adopted and made a part of this Article with the same effect as if fully set forth herein and is hereby adopted as the Plumbing Code of the County of Tulare, and all the provisions thereof shall apply to all of the unincorporated territory of the County of Tulare. Additionally, Tulare County Code Part VII, Chapters 1 and 15 regulate various aspects of OWTS design, construction and permitting and Part IV addresses setbacks from domestic and public water system wells.

In order to comply with the Requirements of the Statewide OWTS policy, Tulare County has updated the applicable County Code sections and developed a guidance manual (On-site Wastewater Management Guidance Manual (Manual)) for the design and construction of OWTS. The Manual is also intended to complement Tulare County Code Parts IV and VII by providing additional requirements regarding the OWTS permitting process, site evaluation requirements, design submittal requirements, in such a manner that compliance with these Chapters can be easily achieved.

The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (Policy) on June 19th, 2012 which was finalized in May 2013. Pursuant to Water Code Section 13291(b)(3), the adopted Policy describes requirements authorizing a qualified local agency to implement the adopted policy. The Policy describes four "Tiers" of Onsite Wastewater Treatment System management. Tier 2 describes the requirements for developing a "Local Area Management Program" (LAMP), which when approved, becomes the standard by which authorized local agencies regulate OWTS. The Policy requires the appropriate RWQCB -in this case the Central Valley RWQCB (RWQCB) -to review the LAMP, and when it is deemed in compliance with Policy requirements, to give its approval. An approved LAMP is equivalent to a "Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements" for OWTS within the local agency jurisdiction. This document constitutes the Tulare County LAMP for OWTS in Tulare County. The LAMP consists of an Introduction and three parts:

Introduction

Part One: Responsibilities and Duties

Part Two: Regulation of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

Part Three: Tulare County OWTS Guidance Manual

Education and Outreach and Collaboration Tulare County will make literature for proper operation and use of septic systems available to the general public in its offices and on its website.

Tulare County will collaborate with other entities regarding Regional Salt and Nutrient Management Plans as necessary.

Tulare County will coordinate with Watershed Management Groups working within the watersheds in Tulare County.

Adequacy of Capacity at Septage Receiving Stations – Tulare County septage goes to any three different facilities; City of Visalia's Waste Water Treatment Plant, City of Tulare Waste Water Treatment Facility and the City of Porterville Waste Water Treatment Facility. Each of these facilities have indicated they have adequate capacity to accommodate current and future septage receiving and processing needs for the County, and both the Tulare and Visalia facilities recently underwent significant capacity expansions.

Adequacy of LAMP per the SWRCB OWTS policy Altogether, Tulare County believes that this LAMP meets or exceeds the intent of the Policy by providing an OWTS local regulatory framework that protects public health, the environment, and groundwater resources to the greatest extent practicable.

## PART ONE

### *RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES*

Section 3 of the OWTS Policy describes the Local Agency Requirements and Responsibilities. The following identifies how Tulare County will implement each section of the Policy. Tulare County will implement this Local Area Management Program (LAMP) in accordance with Tier 2 of the Policy once the LAMP is approved by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB.) Tulare County will adhere to the LAMP including all requirements for monitoring and reporting. Any modifications to the LAMP must first be submitted to the RWQCB with a written notice of the intended modifications. The modifications cannot be implemented until RWQCB approval has been given. At the time of submittal of this LAMP, there are no Clean Water Act section 303(d) impaired water bodies in Tulare County identified by the State Water Resources Control Board. If a 303(d) impaired water body is identified in the future, this LAMP will be revised to conform to requirements of "Tier 3 – Advanced Protection Management Programs for Impaired Areas," as required.

Annual Report The annual report will be submitted to the RWQCB by February 1 of each year in a format prescribed by the Policy (3.3) and includes the following information:

1. Number and location of complaints, and means of resolution.
2. Application and registrations of septic tank cleaners.
3. Number, location, description and risk tier of all OWTS permits (new and replacement).
4. Number, location, description and risk tier of all variances.
5. Water Quality Monitoring identified in the OWTS Policy (9.3). G72
6. Groundwater monitoring data will be submitted in a format for inclusion into GeoTracker, and surface water monitoring shall be submitted to California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN).

Permanent Records Tulare County will retain all permanent records and will make them available within ten (10) working days upon written request by the RWQCB. All permitting actions are also available to the public on from Tulare County upon request.

Tulare County will maintain the number, location and permit description of any variance granted.

### Fifth Year Report

Every fifth-year Tulare County will submit an evaluation of the monitoring program identified below in "Water Quality Data" and an assessment of whether water quality is being impacted by OWTS and identify any changes in the LAMP that may be required to address impacts from OWTS.

### Notifications

Tulare County will notify within 72 hours both State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and the owner of a public water system of any OWTS failures within the horizontal setback of a public supply well or within 2,500 feet of an intake point for a surface water treatment plant. In addition, Tulare County will notify public water systems

identified by DDW prior to the issuance of an installation permit or repair permit for a OWTS if the surface water intake is within 1,200 feet of the OWTS, is within the drainage catchment of the intake point and is located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point; or within the horizontal setback from a public well. Tulare County will maintain a contact list for each water system to make these notifications.

Referral of Systems Not Covered by the LAMP Tulare County will refer all applications of systems not covered by this LAMP (Part 2 Section 101.3) to the RWQCB for coverage under an applicable program in the RWQCB.

Water Quality Data Tulare County will maintain a water quality assessment program that consists of obtaining water quality data from the following sources:

1. Regulated small water systems in Tulare County (SWS).
2. Community Water Systems submit monitoring data to the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water; this data is accessible electronically if needed through state databases.
3. Wells within Tulare County that are monitored as part of the Statewide Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) program.
4. Domestic wells sampled at the request of property owner at the time of well installation.

Corrective Actions: Corrective Actions will be enforced through Tulare County Code Part I, Chapter 23, Administrative Fines. The Director of the Tulare County Resource Management Agency, the Director of the Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, or the County Health Officer, or their designees shall have the authority and powers necessary to determine whether a violation exists.

Existing OWTS: There are OWTS countywide that predate adopted standards and within prescriptive, Tier 1 setbacks, or within setbacks. These existing systems are in Tier 0 of the OWTS Policy and are not covered under this LAMP until such time as these existing systems fail. A failing system shall mean either:

1. surfacing wastewater effluent from the dispersal field and/or wastewater backed up into plumbing fixtures because the dispersal system is not able to percolate the design flow of wastewater associated with the structure served, or
2. septic tank with compartment baffle failure or tank structural integrity failure such that either wastewater is exfiltrating or groundwater is infiltrating.

Once a failed OWTS has been identified, the system will be repaired under the requirements of this LAMP and the Manual.

Variations: Variations for new installations and repairs will be in substantial conformance to the Policy, to the greatest extent practicable. Variations cannot be authorized for:

1. Cesspools of any kind or size.
2. OWTS receiving a projected flow over 3,500 gallons per day.

3. OWTS that utilize any form of effluent dispersal that discharges on or above the post installation ground surface such as sprinklers, exposed drip lines, free-surface wetlands, or a pond.
4. Slopes greater than 30 percent without a slope stability report approved by a registered engineering geologist or civil engineer.
5. Decreased leaching area for IAPMO certified dispersal systems using a multiplier less than 1.0.
6. OWTS utilizing supplemental treatment without requirements for periodic monitoring or inspections.
7. OWTS dedicated to receiving significant amounts of wastes dumped from RV holding tanks.
8. Separation of the bottom of dispersal system to groundwater less than two (2) feet, except for seepage pits, which shall not be less than 10 feet.
9. Installation of new or replacement OWTS where public sewer is available. The public sewer may be considered as not available when such public sewer or any building or exterior drainage facility connected thereto is located more than 200 feet from any proposed building or exterior drainage facility on any lot or premises that abuts and is served by such public sewer. (CPC 713.4) This provision does not apply to replacement OWTS where the connection fees and construction cost are greater than twice the total cost of the replacement OWTS and the local agency determines that the discharge from the OWTS will not affect groundwater or surface water to a degree that makes it unfit for drinking or other uses.

Maintenance Districts – Maintenance Districts for the operation, maintenance and monitoring of domestic OWTS is outside the scope of this LAMP.

#### Assessment Program

Tulare County will maintain a water quality assessment program to determine the general operational status of OWTS and to evaluate the impact of OWTS discharges, and assess the extent to which groundwater and local surface water quality may be adversely impacted. The focus of the assessment should be areas identified with shallow soils, high domestic well usage, fractured rock, poorly drained soils, and surface waters vulnerable to pollution.

This program will help identify potential areas for changes to existing OWTS management practices. The assessment program will include monitoring and analysis of water quality data, review of complaints, variances, failures, and any information resulting from inspections. The assessment may use existing water quality data from other monitoring programs and/or establish the terms, conditions, and timing for monitoring done by the local agency. At a minimum, this assessment will include monitoring data for nitrates and pathogens, and may include data for other constituents which are needed to adequately characterize the impacts of OWTS on water quality. Other monitoring programs for which data may be used include but are not limited to any of the following:

1. Review of public system sampling reports done by the local agency or another municipality

- responsible for the public system.
2. Reservoir or stream water quality sampling data for rivers or other studies.
  3. Water quality testing reports done at the time of new well development, if those are reported.
  4. Receiving water sampling performed as a part of a NPDES permit.
  5. Groundwater sampling performed as part of Waste Discharge Requirements.
  6. Groundwater data collected as part of the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program and available in the GeoTracker Database.

## **PART TWO**

### ***Regulation of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems***

Part Two of this LAMP describes the requirements for the siting, design, and construction of OWTS in Tulare County as defined in Appendix H of the 2016 California Plumbing Code and in conformance with Tier 2 requirements.

#### ***Section 100 – General OTWS System Requirements***

##### 101.1 Applicability

Part Two of the LAMP provides general guidelines for the site evaluations, materials, design and installation of OWTS.

##### 101.2 General Requirements

Where permitted by Section 713.0 of the 2016 California Plumbing Code, the building sewer shall be permitted to be connected to a private sewage dispersal system in accordance with the provisions of this Manual. The size of a system shall be determined on the basis of location, soil porosity, and groundwater level, and shall be designed to receive all sewage from the property. All new private sewage dispersal systems approved by the EHD and permitted by the RMA, except as otherwise approved, shall consist of a septic tank with effluent discharging into a subsurface dispersal field.

Repairs to existing private sewage dispersal systems shall consist of a septic tank with effluent discharging into a subsurface dispersal field, except as otherwise approved due to physical constraints that would prevent the use of this type of system.

The RMA shall be permitted to grant exceptions to the provisions of this LAMP for repairs of existing OWTS and for permitted structures that have been destroyed due to fire or natural disaster and that cannot be reconstructed in compliance with these provisions provided that such exceptions are the minimum necessary.

##### 101.3 Quantity and Quality

Where the quantity or quality of the sewage is:

1. in excess of 3,500 gallons per day design flow

2. identified by the EHD as wastewater strength having a 30-day average concentration of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) greater than 300 milligrams-per-liter (mg/L) or of total suspended solids (TSS) greater than 330 mg/L or a fats, oil, and grease (FOG) concentration greater than 100 mg/L prior to the septic tank or other OWTS treatment component
3. required to provide nitrogen reduction to mitigate:
  - a. for setbacks from public water system intakes and wells
  - b. allowable average density requirements for new land developments utilizing private sewage dispersal systems as defined in Tier 1 of the OWTS Policy
  - c. for systems in areas with high domestic well usage
  - d. for systems in areas with OWTS density
  - e. or other condition or criteria identified by the RMA or EHD and/or the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) including but not limited to RV dump stations;
4. Systems proposing reduced setbacks from seasonal high groundwater through the use of supplemental treatment, soil import or any other method not described in the LAMP.

such that the above system described in Section 1.2 cannot be expected to function satisfactorily for commercial, agricultural, and industrial plumbing systems; for installations where appreciable amounts of industrial or indigestible wastes are produced; for occupancies producing abnormal quantities of sewage or liquid waste; or where grease interceptors are required by other parts of this code, the method of sewage treatment and dispersal shall be first approved and permit issued by the RWQCB. Special sewage dispersal systems for minor, limited, or temporary uses shall be first approved by the RMA.

#### 101.4 Septic Tank and Dispersal Field Systems.

Dispersal systems shall be designed to utilize the most porous or absorptive portions of the soil formation. Where the groundwater level extends to within 12 feet (3658 mm) or less of the ground surface or where the upper soil is porous and the underlying stratum is rock or impervious soil, a septic tank and dispersal field system shall be installed maintaining at least 5 feet (1524mm) from evidence of seasonal high groundwater. In no case, will the total depth of the dispersal field exceed 10 feet (3048mm) from the natural existing ground surface.

#### 101.5 Flood Hazard Areas

Dispersal systems shall be located outside of flood hazard areas.

*Exception:* Where suitable sites outside of flood hazard areas are not available, dispersal systems shall be permitted to be located in flood hazard areas on sites where the effects of inundation under conditions of the design flood are minimized.

#### 101.6 Design



Private sewage dispersal systems shall be so designed that subsurface drain fields, equivalent to not less than 100 percent of the required original system, shall be permitted to be installed where the original system cannot absorb all the sewage. No division of the lot or erection of structures on the lot shall be made where such division or structure requires the use of a seepage pit or impairs the usefulness of the 100 percent expansion area of the subsurface drain field.

#### 101.7 Capacity

No property shall be improved in excess of its capacity to properly disperse sewage effluent by the means provided in this LAMP and applicable Tulare County Code.

*Exception:* The RMA can, at its discretion, approve an exception for the repair of an OWTS through the County variance process.

#### 101.8 Location

No private sewage dispersal system, or part thereof, shall be located in any lot other than the lot that is the site of the building or structure served by such private sewage dispersal system, nor shall any private sewage dispersal system or part thereof be located at any point having less than the minimum distances indicated in Table 101.8 of this LAMP.

Nothing contained in this code shall be construed to prohibit the use of all or part of an abutting lot to provide additional space for a private sewage dispersal system or part thereof where proper cause, transfer of ownership, or change of boundary not in violation of other requirements has been first established to the satisfaction of the RMA. The instrument recording such action shall constitute an agreement with the RMA, which shall clearly state and show that the areas so joined or used shall be maintained as a unit during the time they are so used. Such agreement shall be recorded in the office of the County Recorder as part of the conditions of ownership of said properties and shall be binding on heirs, successors, and assigns to such properties. A copy of the instrument recording such proceedings shall be filed with the RMA.

**Table 101.8 Minimum Required Setback Distances for OWTs**

Site Feature	Septic Tank	Dispersal Field	Seepage Pit
Non-Public Water Supply Wells and Springs	100 feet	100 feet <sup>1</sup>	150 feet <sup>1</sup>
Public Water Supply Well Dispersal System Depth	100 feet	150 feet <sup>1, 2, 9</sup>	150 feet <sup>1, 2, 9</sup>
Watercourse: General	100 <sup>2, 9</sup>	100 <sup>2, 9</sup>	150 <sup>2, 9</sup>
Between 1,200 to 2,500 feet from a Public Water System Intake	100	200	200
Within 1,200 feet from a Public Water System Intake	100	400	400
Drainage way/swale, ephemeral streams, creeks, unlined irrigation ditch or canal, and other flowing or surface bodies of water	100 feet <sup>3</sup>	100 feet <sup>3</sup>	150 feet <sup>3</sup>
Lakes, ponds, stormwater/recharge basins, and other surface water bodies	100 feet	200 feet	200 feet
Lined ditches, lined canals, lined watertight culverts	15	15	15
Residential on-site stormwater basins	15	15	15
Seepage Pit <sup>4</sup>	5 feet	5 feet	12 feet
Dispersal field <sup>5</sup>	5 feet	4 feet <sup>6</sup>	5 feet
Cuts or steep embankments (from top of cut)	10 feet	4xh <sup>6, 7</sup>	4xh <sup>6, 7</sup>
Steep slopes (from break of slope)	10 feet	4xh <sup>6, 7</sup>	4xh <sup>6, 7</sup>
Unstable land Mass <sup>8</sup>	100 feet	100 feet	100 feet

- 1 Drainage piping shall clear domestic water supply wells by not less than 50 feet. This distance shall be permitted to be reduced to not less than 25 feet where the drainage piping is constructed of materials approved for use within a building.
- 2 Where the effluent dispersal system is within 1,200 feet from a public water systems' surface water intake point, within the catchment of the drainage, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as upstream of the intake point for flowing water bodies, the dispersal system shall be no less than 400 feet from the high water mark of the reservoir, lake or flowing water body. Where the effluent dispersal system is located more than 1,200 but less than 2,500 feet from a public water systems' surface water intake point, the dispersal system shall be no less than 200 feet from the high water mark of the reservoir, lake, or flowing water body.
- 3 These minimum clear horizontal distances shall also apply between dispersal fields, seepage pits, and the mean high-tide line.
- 4 Where dispersal fields, seepage pits, or both are installed on sloping ground, the minimum horizontal distance between any part of the leaching system and ground surface shall be 15 feet.
- 5 Plus 2 feet for each additional 1 foot of depth in excess of 1 foot below the bottom of the drain line.
- 6 h equals the height of the cut or embankment, in feet. The required setback distance shall not be less than 15 feet nor more than 100 feet.
- 7 Steep slope is considered to be land with a slope of > 30% and distinctly steeper (at least 20% steeper) than the slope of the adjacent tank or dispersal field area.
- 8 Unstable land mass or any areas subject to earth slides identified by a registered engineer or registered geologist; other setback distances are allowed, if recommended by a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional.
- 9 Where the dispersal system is greater than 20' in depth, and less than 600' from public water supply well, then the setback must be greater than the distance for two-year travel time of microbiological contaminants, as determined by qualified professional. In no case, shall the setback be less than 200'.

### 101.9 Building Permit

Where there is insufficient lot area or improper soil conditions for sewage dispersal for the building or land use proposed, and the RMA so finds, no building permit shall be issued and no private sewage dispersal shall be permitted. Where space or soil conditions are critical, no building permit shall be issued until engineering data and test reports satisfactory to the RMA and EHD have been submitted and approved.

### 101.10 Additional Requirements

Nothing contained in this LAMP shall be construed to prevent the RMA from requiring compliance with additional requirements than those contained herein, where such additional requirements are essential to maintain a safe and sanitary condition.

### 101.11 Alternate Systems

Alternative dispersal systems shall be permitted by special permission of the RMA. Any OWTS or component of an OWTS, except a septic tank or dosing tank, that performs additional wastewater treatment so that the effluent meets a predetermined performance requirement prior to discharge of effluent into the dispersal field are not covered under this LAMP.

## **Section 200 – Septic Tanks**

### 201.1 General

The liquid capacity of septic tanks shall comply with Table 201.1 in this LAMP as determined by the number of bedrooms or apartment units in dwelling occupancies and the estimated waste/sewage design flow rate or the number of plumbing fixture units as determined from Table 702.1 of the 2016 California Plumbing Code, whichever is greater in other building occupancies.

Single Family Dwellings – Number of Bedrooms	Multiple Dwelling Units or Apartments -- One Bedroom Ea.	Minimum Septic Tank Capacity (Gallons)
1 or 2	-	750
3	-	1000
4	2 units	1200
5 or 6	3	1500
-	4	2000
-	5	2250
-	6	2500
-	7	2750
-	8	3000
-	9	3250
-	10	3500

For SI units: 1 gallon= 3.785 L 3250

Notes:

- 1 Extra bedroom, 150 gallons (568 L) each.
- 2 Extra dwelling units over 10: 250 gallons (946 L) each.
- 3 Extra fixture units over 100: 25 gallons (94.6 L) per fixture unit.
- 4 Septic tank sizes in this table include sludge storage capacity and the connection of domestic food waste disposers without further volume increase.

**TABLE 202**  
**Estimate of Wastewater Design Flow Rates**

Type of Business or Facility	Minimum Flow (Gallons/ Day)
Bathhouses and swimming pools	10 (per person)
Barbershop/salon	100 (per chair)
Camps (4 persons per campsite, where applicable)	
-with central comfort stations	35 (per person)
-with flush toilets, no showers	25 (per person)
-construction camps (semi-permanent)	50 (per person)
-day camps (no meals served)	15 (per person)
-resort camps (night and day) with limited plumbing	50 (per person)
Churches	
-with kitchen	15 (per seat)
-without kitchen	5 (per seat)
Country clubs	
-per resident member	100
-add per nonresident member present	25
-add per employee	15 (per 8 hour shift)
Department store with public bathrooms	400
Dentist office	
-per wet chair	200
-add per non-wet chair	50
Factories	
-with shower facilities, no food service or industrial wastes	35 (per person, per shift)
-without shower facilities, no food, service or industrial wastes	15 (per person, per shift)
Hospitals	250 (per bed space)
Hotels or motels	
-with private baths	100 (per room)
-without private baths	80 (per room)
Institutions other than hospitals	125 (per bed)
Laundries, self-service washing machines	500 (per machine)
Limited agricultural building	100 (per building)
Mobile home parks	250 (per space)
Parks, public picnic areas	
-with toilet wastes only	5 (per person)
-with bathhouses, showers and flush toilets	10 (per person)
Restaurants	
-with multi-use utensils	50 (per seat)
-with single service utensils	25 (per seat)
-with bars and/or cocktail lounges	50 (per seat)
Residential Structures	
-Second dwelling, condominium, multi-family (duplex, triplex, etc.)	150 per Bedroom
-Guesthouse/Poolhouse (no kitchen)	
Retail stores	
-for customer	-Use comparable flows from similar businesses
-add for each employee	-15 (per 8-hr shift)
Shopping center	2 (per parking space)
Schools	
-boarding	100 (per person)
-day (without gyms, cafeterias or showers)	15 (per person)
-day (with gyms, cafeterias and showers)	25 (per person)
-day (with cafeteria, no gym or showers)	20 (per person)
Service stations	500 for 1st pump set, 300 for each additional

<b>Theaters</b> -movie -drive-in	5 (per seat) 20 (per car space)
<b>Recreational vehicle parks</b> -without individual water and sewer hookups -with individual water sewer hookups	50 (per space) 100 (per space)

Table 203: Application Rates as Determined from Stabilized Percolation Rate

Percolation Rate (minutes per inch)	Application Rate (gallons per day per square foot)		Percolation Rate (minutes per inch)	Application Rate (gallons per day per square foot)		Percolation Rate (minutes per inch)	Application Rate (gallons per day per square foot)
1	Requires LAMP		51	0.522		61	0.197
2	1.2		52	0.511		62	0.194
3	1.2		53	0.5		63	0.19
4	1.2		54	0.489		64	0.187
5	1.2		55	0.478		65	0.184
6	1.2		56	0.467		66	0.18
7	0.8		57	0.456		67	0.177
8	0.8		58	0.445		68	0.174
9	0.8		59	0.434		69	0.17
10	0.8		60	0.422		70	0.167
11	0.8		61	0.411		71	0.164
12	0.736		62	0.4		72	0.16
13	0.771		63	0.389		73	0.157
14	0.757		64	0.378		74	0.154
15	0.743		65	0.367		75	0.15
16	0.729		66	0.356		76	0.147
17	0.714		67	0.345		77	0.144
18	0.7		68	0.334		78	0.14
19	0.686		69	0.323		79	0.137
20	0.671		70	0.311		80	0.133
21	0.657		71	0.3		81	0.13
22	0.643		72	0.289		82	0.127
23	0.629		73	0.278		83	0.123
24	0.614		74	0.267		84	0.12
25	0.6		75	0.256		85	0.117
26	0.589		76	0.245		86	0.113
27	0.576		77	0.234		87	0.11
28	0.567		78	0.223		88	0.107
29	0.556		79	0.212		89	0.103
30	0.545		80	0.2		90	0.1
30	0.533					90 - 120	0.1

**Table 204  
Design Soil Application Rates**

(Source: California State Water Resources Control Board Onsite Wastewater (OWTS) Policy, June 19, 2017)

Soil Texture (per the USDA soil classification system)	Soil Structure Shape	Grade	Maximum Soil Application Rate (gallons per day per square foot)
Coarse Sand, Sand, loamy Coarse Sand, loamy Sand	Single grain	Structureless	0.8
Fine Sand, Very Fine Sand, loamy Fine Sand, loamy Very Fine Sand	Single grain	Structureless	0.4
Coarse Sandy loam, Sandy loam	Massive	Structureless	0.2
	Platy	Weak	0.2
		Moderate, Strong	Special Design
	Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak	0.4
Moderate, Strong		0.6	
Fine Sandy loam, very fine Sandy loam	Massive	Structureless	0.2
	Platy	Weak, Moderate, Strong	Special Design
	Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak	0.2
		Moderate, Strong	0.4
loam	Massive	Structureless	0.2
	Platy	Weak, Moderate, Strong	Special Design
	Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak	0.4
		Moderate, Strong	0.6
Silt loam	Massive	Structureless	Special Design
	Platy	Weak, Moderate, Strong	Special Design
	Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak	0.4
		Moderate, Strong	0.6
Sandy Clay loam, Clay loam, Silty Clay loam	Massive	Structureless	Special Design
	Platy	Weak, Moderate, Strong	Special Design
	Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak	0.2
		Moderate, Strong	0.4
Sandy Clay, Clay, or Silty Clay	Massive	Structureless	Special Design
	Platy	Weak, Moderate, Strong	Special Design
	Prismatic, Blocky, Granular	Weak	Special Design
		Moderate, Strong	0.2

## ***Section 300 – Area of Dispersal Fields and Seepage Pits***

### **301 General**

The minimum effective dispersal area in dispersal fields in square feet (ft<sup>2</sup>), and in seepage pits in square feet (ft<sup>2</sup>) of sidewall, shall be predicated on the design flow in gallons (liters) for the proposed facility found in Table 202 in this LAMP, estimated waste/sewage flow rate, or whichever is greater, and shall be in accordance with Table 204 in this LAMP as determined for the soil found in the excavation or soil application rate derived from percolation testing per Section 401.3, and shall be as follows:

1. Where dispersal fields are installed, not less than 150 square feet (13.9 m<sup>2</sup>) of trench bottom shall be provided for each system exclusive of any hard pan, rock, clay, or other impervious formations. Trench width is limited to a maximum of 36 inches. The first foot of both sidewalls underneath the pipe is not allowed to be used in calculating the square footage of the dispersal area. The sidewall area allowed in the calculation is not to exceed 36 inches when computing dispersal area per lineal foot of trench unless approved within an alternative design system.
2. Where leaching beds are permitted in lieu of trenches, the area of each such bed shall be not less than 50 percent greater than the tabular requirements for trenches. Perimeter sidewall area in excess of the required 12 inches (305 mm) and not exceeding 36 inches (914 mm) below the leach line shall be permitted to be added to the trench bottom area where computing dispersal areas.
3. No excavation for a leach line or leach bed shall be located within 5 feet (1524 mm) of evidence of the high groundwater, in excess of ten feet from the natural existing ground surface, nor to a depth where sewage is capable of contaminating the underground water stratum that is usable for domestic purposes.
4. The minimum effective dispersal area in any seepage pit shall be calculated as the excavated sidewall area below the inlet exclusive of any hardpan, rock, clay, or other impervious formations. The minimum required area of porous formation shall be provided in one or more seepage pits. No excavation shall extend within 10 feet (3048 mm) neither of the water table nor to a depth where sewage is capable of contaminating underground water stratum that is usable for domestic purpose.
5. Leaching chambers that comply with IAPMO PS 63 and bundled expanded polystyrene synthetic aggregate units that comply with IAPMO IGC 276 shall be sized using the required area calculated using Table 204 with a 1.00 multiplier.

## ***Section 400 – Percolation Testing***

### **401.1 Dispersal Field and Seepage Pit Sizes**

Where practicable, dispersal field and seepage pit sizes shall be computed by percolation tests using the calculation method described in 401.3, unless use of Table 204 is approved by the RMA for a particular site.



#### 401.2 Dispersal Qualities

In order to determine the dispersal qualities of seepage pits and of soils where the texture, soil structure, and/or grade is questionable as they pertain to Table 204, the proposed site shall be subjected to percolation tests acceptable to the RMA as described in the Section 401.4.

#### 401.3 Soil Application Rates

Soil application rates will be determined using the Table 204 and/or the following equation to convert the average percolation rate (or infiltration rate) into the application rate [gallons-per-day (gpd)-persq.ft.]: where Q = application rate, t = average percolation rate.

$$Q = \frac{5}{\sqrt{t}}$$

EXAMPLE: t = 75 mpi, therefore Q = 0.58 gpd/sq.ft.

The average of all percolation tests in the leaching area shall not exceed two hundred (200) minutes per inch (mi./inch). No single percolation test shall exceed two hundred-forty (240) mi./inch.

#### 401.4 Soil Application Rates Calculated from Percolation Tests

1. Percolation tests may be performed by a Qualified Professional as defined in Section 1300 of the LAMP, to provide additional and appropriate dispersal application rates. Percolation tests are to be performed during the site evaluation process at the discretion of either the RMA or the Qualified Professional and when soil conditions warrant.
2. When percolation tests are utilized the following requirements will apply:
  - a. Test hole preparation requirements:
    - i. for dispersal fields
      1. Unless otherwise indicated by the RMA, there shall be a minimum of 3 percolation test holes when the disposal area and replacement area are in the same proximity as determined by the RMA; 6 percolation test holes may be required when separate areas are chosen for primary and replacement systems. Additional test holes may be required by the RMA to completely identify a suitable area for a dispersal system.
      2. Percolation test holes shall be 6 inches in diameter.
      3. Unless otherwise approved by the RMA, the test hole bottom depth shall be deeper than the proposed dispersal system bottom depth

- and within the most restrictive strata of useable soil beneath the dispersal field.
4. The percolation test hole sidewall in the test section should be roughened to remove any smearing or compaction caused by the hole excavation process. All loose soil shall be removed and 2 inches of pea gravel or other material approved by the RMA shall be placed in the bottom of the hole.
  5. In order to prevent silting of the bottom of the hole and sidewall cave-in, a 1-inch sidewall gravel pack shall be used. The gravel pack shall be perforated plastic pipe in 12 inch (or longer) sections
- ii. for seepage pits
    1. Unless otherwise indicated by the RMA, there shall be a percolation test performed on every seepage pit proposed. Additional test holes may be required by the RMA to completely identify a suitable area for a dispersal system.
- b. Presoak requirement
    - i. The hole shall be filled with clean water to a minimum depth of 12 inches above the base of the hole. The presoak shall be maintained for a minimum of 4 hours for sandy soil with no clay and 24 hours for all other soils.
  - c. Test measurement requirements
    - i. Percolation tests shall be measured to the nearest 1/8-inch from a fixed point.
    - ii. The percolation test shall begin within 4 hours following completion of the presoak. Adjust the water level to 6 inches (12 inches for seepage pits) over the pea gravel bottom and begin the test. This may require adding or removing water to adjust the level.
    - iii. Readings shall be taken at 30-minute intervals. Refill as necessary to maintain 6 inches of water over the pea gravel bottom at each interval. Readings shall be taken until two consecutive readings do not vary by more than ten percent per reading, with a minimum of 3 readings. The last 30-minute interval is used to compute the percolation rate. If 4 inches or more of water seeps from the hole during the 30minute interval, readings may be taken at 10 minute intervals. Readings shall be taken until 2 consecutive readings do not vary by more than ten percent per reading with a minimum of 3 readings. The last 10-minute interval is used to compute the percolation rate.

## ***Section 500 – Septic Tank Construction***

### **501.1 Plans**

The RMA will accept those products which are certified by International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), National Sanitation Foundation (NSF), or by other recognized listing

agencies.

#### 501.2 Design

Septic tank design shall be such as to produce a clarified effluent consistent with accepted standards and shall provide adequate space for sludge and scum accumulations.

#### 501.3 Construction

Septic tanks shall be constructed of solid durable materials not subject to excessive corrosion or decay and shall be watertight.

#### 501.4 Compartments

Septic tanks shall have not less than two compartments unless otherwise approved by the RMA. The inlet compartment of any septic tank shall be not less than two-thirds of the total capacity of the tank, nor less than 500 gallons (1892 L) liquid capacity, and shall be not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in width and 5 feet (1524 mm) in length. Liquid depth shall be not less than 2 1/2 feet (762 mm) nor more than 6 feet (1829 mm). The secondary compartment of a septic tank shall have a capacity of not less than 250 gallons (946 L) and a capacity not exceeding one-third of the total capacity of such tank. In septic tanks having a capacity equal or greater to 1500 gallon (5678 L), the secondary compartment shall be not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) in length.

#### 501.5 Access

Access to each septic tank shall be provided by not less than two manholes 20 inches (508 mm) in minimum dimension or by an equivalent removable cover slab. One access manhole shall be located over the inlet and one access manhole shall be located over the outlet. Where a first compartment exceeds 12 feet (3658 mm) in length, an additional manhole shall be provided over the baffle wall.

#### 501.6 Pipe Opening Sizes

The inlet and outlet pipe openings shall not be larger in size than the connecting sewer pipe. The vertical leg of round inlet and outlet fittings shall not be less in size than the connecting sewer pipe nor less than 4 inches (102 mm). A baffle-type fitting shall have the equivalent cross-sectional area of the connecting sewer pipe and not less than a 4 inch (102 mm) horizontal dimension where measured at the inlet and outlet pipe inverts.

#### 501.7 Pipe Extension

The inlet and outlet pipe or baffle shall extend 4 inches (102 mm) above and not less than 12 inches (305 mm) below the water surface. The invert of the inlet pipe shall be at a level not less than 2 inches (51 mm) above the invert of the outlet pipe.

#### 501.8 Free Vent Area

Inlet and outlet pipe fittings or baffles and compartment partitions shall have a free vent area equal to the required cross-sectional area of the house sewer or private sewer discharging therein to provide free ventilation above the water surface from the dispersal field or seepage pit through the septic tank, house sewer, and stack to the outer air.

#### 501.9 Sidewalls

The sidewalls shall extend not less than 9 inches (229 mm) above the liquid depth. The cover of the septic tank shall be not less than 2 inches (51 mm) above the back-vent openings.

#### 501.10 Partitions and Baffles

Partitions or baffles between compartments shall be of solid, durable material and shall extend not less than 4 inches (102 mm) above the liquid level. The transfer port between compartments shall be a minimum size equivalent to the tank inlet, but in no case less than 4 inches (102 mm) in size, shall be installed in the inlet compartment side of the baffle so that the entry into the port is placed 65 percent to 75 percent in the depth of the liquid. Wooden baffles are prohibited.

#### 501.11 Structural Design

The structural design of septic tanks shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Each such tank shall be structurally designed to with-stand all anticipated earth or other loads. Septic tank covers shall be capable of supporting an earth load of not less than 500 pounds per square foot (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>) (2441 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) where the maximum coverage does not exceed 3 feet (914 mm).
2. In flood hazard areas, tanks shall be anchored to counter buoyant forces during conditions of the design flood. The vent termination and service manhole of the tank shall be not less than 2 feet (610 mm) above the design flood elevation or fitted with covers designed to prevent the inflow of floodwater or the outflow of the contents of the tanks during conditions of the design flood.

#### 501.12 Manholes

Septic tanks shall have weathertight manholes accessible by extending the manhole openings to grade if installed under concrete or blacktop paving, or within 6-inches of finished grade if under soil cover in a manner acceptable to the RMA.

#### 501.13 Materials

The materials used for constructing a septic tank shall be in accordance with the following:

1. Materials used in constructing a concrete septic tank shall be in accordance with applicable standards.
2. The use of steel septic tank shall be prohibited.
3. Septic tanks constructed of alternate materials shall be permitted to be approved by the RMA where in accordance with approved applicable standards. Wooden septic tanks shall be prohibited.

#### 501.14 Prefabricated Septic Tanks

Prefabricated septic tanks shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Manufactured or prefabricated septic tanks shall comply with approved applicable standards and be listed by a recognized listing agency. Prefabricated bituminous coated septic tanks shall comply with UL 70.

### ***Section 600 Dispersal Fields***

#### H 601.1 Distribution Lines

Distribution lines shall be constructed of perforated high-density polyethylene pipe, perforated ABS pipe, perforated PVC pipe, or other approved materials, provided that approved openings are available for distribution of the effluent into the trench area.

#### 601.2 Filter Material

Before placing filter material or drain lines in a prepared excavation, smeared or compacted surfaces shall be removed from trenches by raking to a depth of 1 inch (25.4 mm) and the loose material removed. Clean stone, gravel, slag, or similar filter material acceptable to the RMA, varying in size from 3/4 of an inch to 2 1/2 inches (19.1 mm to 64 mm), shall be placed in the trench to the depth and grade required by this section. Drain pipe shall be placed on filter material in an approved manner.

The drain lines shall then be covered with filter material to the minimum depth required by this section, and this material covered with untreated building paper, straw, or similar porous material to prevent closure of voids with earth backfill. No earth backfill shall be placed over the filter material cover until after inspection and acceptance.

*Exception:* Listed or approved plastic leaching chambers and bundled expanded polystyrene synthetic aggregate units shall be permitted to be used in lieu of pipe and filter material. Chambers and bundled expanded polystyrene, synthetic aggregate unit installations shall follow the rules for dispersal fields, where applicable, and shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

#### 601.3 Grade Board

A grade board staked in the trench to the depth of filter material shall be utilized where the distribution line is constructed with drain tile or a flexible pipe material that will not maintain alignment without continuous support.

#### 601.4 Seepage Pits

Where seepage pits are used in combination with dispersal fields, the filter material in the trenches shall terminate not less than 5 feet (1524 mm) from the pit excavation, and the line extending from such points to the seepage pit shall be approved pipe with water-tight joints.

#### 601.5 Distribution Boxes

Where two or more drain lines are installed, an approved distribution box of sufficient size to receive lateral lines shall be installed at the head of each dispersal field. The inverts of outlets shall be level, and the invert of the inlet shall be not less than 1 inch (25.4 mm) above the outlets. Distribution boxes shall be designed to ensure equal flow and shall be installed on a level concrete slab in natural or compacted soil.

#### 601.6 Laterals

Laterals from a distribution box to the dispersal field shall be approved pipe with watertight joints. Multiple dispersal field laterals, where practicable, shall be of uniform length.

#### 601.7 Connections

Connections between a septic tank and a distribution box shall be laid with approved pipe with watertight joints on natural ground or compacted fill.

#### 601.8 Dosing Tanks

Where the quantity of sewage exceeds the amount that is permitted to be disposed in 500 lineal feet (152.4 m) of leach line, a dosing tank shall be used. Dosing tanks shall be equipped with an automatic siphon or pump that discharges the tank once every 3 or 4 hours. The tank shall have a capacity equal to 60 to 75 percent of the interior capacity of the pipe to be dosed at one time. Where the total length of pipe exceeds 1000 lineal feet (304.8 m), the dosing tank shall be provided with two siphons or pumps dosing alternately and each serving one half of the leach field.

#### 601.9 Construction

Dispersal fields shall be constructed in accordance with Table 601.9.

Minimum spacing between trenches or leaching beds shall be not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) plus 2 feet (610 mm) for each additional foot (305 mm) of depth in excess of 1 foot (305 mm) below the bottom of the drain line. Distribution drain lines in leaching beds shall be not more

than 6 feet (1829 mm) apart on centers, and no part of the perimeter of the leaching bed shall exceed 3 feet (914 mm) from a distribution drain line. Dispersal fields, trenches, and leaching beds shall not be paved over or covered by concrete or a material that is capable of reducing or inhibiting a possible evaporation of sewer effluent.

**TABLE 601.9  
GENERAL DISPOSAL FIELD REQUIREMENTS**

	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
Number of drain lines per field	2	-
Length of each line	-	100 feet
Bottom width of trench	18 inches	36 inches
Spacing of lines, center-to-center	6 feet	-
Depth of earth cover of lines (preferred -18 inches)	12 inches	9 feet
Grade of lines	Level	3 inches per 100 feet
Filter material under drain lines	12	-
Filter material over drain lines	2 inches	-

**601.10 Joints**

Where necessary on sloping ground to prevent excessive line slope, leach lines or leach beds shall be stepped. The lines between each horizontal section shall be made with watertight joints and shall be designed so each horizontal leaching trench or bed shall be utilized to the maximum capacity before the effluent shall pass to the next lower leach line or bed. The lines between each horizontal leaching section shall be made with approved watertight joints and installed on natural or unfilled ground.

***Section 700 Seepage Pits***

**701.1 Approval**

Seepage pit systems are systems designed to be used in areas of the County where subsoils are clay, clay pan, fragipan, hard pan and do not offer opportunities to install typical leach trench disposal type of systems. It is generally acknowledged that the use of these systems addresses only disposal requirements as opposed to treatment and disposal.

1. Seepage pits shall be used only to service a single-family residence and only when the site is not approvable for installation of a standard or other special system.
2. At least one test boring to groundwater or ten (10) feet below the proposed design depth of the pits, whichever is shallower, shall be made in the lowest area of the proposed disposal area to evaluate soils. Additional test pits may be required at the discretion of the Division to determine the suitability of the site for on-site sewage disposal. All test borings shall be witnessed by the consultant.



3. Use of seepage pits in all other situations will require permitting approval through the RWQCB.

#### 701.2 Capacity

The capacity of seepage pits shall be based on the quantity of liquid waste discharging thereinto and on the character and porosity of the surrounding soil, and shall be in accordance with Section 301.0 of the Manual.

#### 701.3 Multiple Installations

Multiple seepage pit installations shall be served through an approved distribution box or be connected in series by means of a watertight connection laid on undistributed or compacted soil. The outlet from the pit shall have an approved vented leg fitting extending not less than 12 inches (305 mm) below the inlet fitting.

#### 701.4 Construction

A seepage pit shall be circular in shape and shall have an excavated diameter of not less than 3 feet (1219 mm) and no more than 5 feet (2,031mm). The seepage pit shall be filled up to the concrete collar with leach rock or cobbles that are a minimum of three quarters (3/4") inches (19.1 mm) and two and one half (2,5") inches (64 mm) in diameter in any dimension or with other filter material approved by the RMA. The cobbles or filter material shall be washed clean so as to be free of debris and dirt.

#### 701.7 Sidewall

A seepage pit shall have a minimum sidewall of 10 feet (3048 mm) below the inlet.

#### 701.8 Lid

Approved-type one or two-piece reinforced concrete slabs of not less than 2500 lb/in<sup>2</sup> (1 757 674 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) minimum compressive strength, not less than 5 inches (127 mm) thick, and designed to support an earth load of not less than 400 pounds per square foot (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>) (1953 kg/m<sup>2</sup>). Each such cover shall be provided with a 9 inch (229 mm) minimum inspection hole with plug or cover and shall be coated on the underside with an approved bituminous or other nonpermeable protective compound.

#### 701.9 Location

The top of the cover shall be not less than 18 inches (457 mm) but not exceed 4 feet (1219 mm) below the surface of the ground.

#### 701.10 Inlet Fitting A

90 degree "Tee" fitting or (approved equal) vented inlet fitting shall be provided in the seepage pit so arranged as to prevent the inflow from damaging the sidewall. The fitting shall be situated below the inspection hole in the lid.

*Exception:* Where using a one-concrete slab cover inlet, fitting shall be permitted to be a one-fourth bend fitting discharging through an opening in the top of the slab cover. On multiple seepage pit installations, the outlet fittings shall comply with Section 701.2 of this Manual.

### ***Section 800 Cesspools***

#### **801.1 Cesspools**

Cesspools are prohibited in the OWTS Policy. Existing cesspools are to be destroyed and replaced within 90 days with an appropriate permitted OWTS.

### ***Section 900 Commercial or Industrial Special Liquid-Waste Dispersal***

#### **901.1 Interceptor.**

Where liquid wastes contain excessive amounts of grease or lint that affect the operation of a private sewage dispersal system, an interceptor for such grease or lint shall be installed.

#### **901.2 Installation**

Installation of such interceptors shall comply with Section 1009.0 of this code, and their location shall comply with Table 101.8 of this LAMP.

#### **901.3 Sampling Box**

A sampling box shall be installed where required by the EHD.

#### **901.4 Design and Structural Requirement**

Interceptors shall be of approved design and be not less than two compartments. Structural requirements shall comply with Section H 501.0 of this appendix.

#### **901.5 Location**

Interceptors shall be located as close to the source as possible and be accessible for servicing. Necessary manholes for servicing shall be at grade level and be gastight.

#### **901.6 Waste Discharge**

Waste discharge from interceptors shall be permitted to be connected to a septic tank or other primary system or be disposed into a separate dispersal system.

**901.7 Design Criteria** A formula shall be permitted to be adapted to other types of occupancies with similar wastes.

## ***Section 1000 Inspection and Testing***

### **1001.1 Inspection**

Inspection requirements shall comply with the following:

1. Applicable provisions of Section 105.0 of this code and this appendix shall be required. Plans shall be required in accordance with Section 103.3 of this code.
2. System components shall be properly identified as to manufacturer. Septic tanks or other primary systems shall have the rated capacity permanently marked on the unit.
3. Septic tanks or other primary systems shall be installed on dry, level, well-compacted soil.
4. Where design is predicated on soil tests, the system shall be installed at the same location and depth as the tested area.

### **1001.2 Testing**

Testing requirements shall comply with the following:

1. Septic tanks or other primary components shall be filled with water to flow line prior to requesting inspection. Seams or joints shall be left exposed (except the bottom), and the tank shall remain watertight.
2. A flow test shall be performed through the system to the point of effluent dispersal. All lines and components shall be watertight. Capacities, required air space, and fittings shall comply with the provisions set forth in this appendix.

## ***Section 1100 Abandoned Sewers and Sewage Dispersal Facilities***

### **1101.1 Plugged and Capped**

An abandoned building (house) sewer, or part thereof, shall be plugged or capped in an approved manner within 5 feet (1524 mm) of the property line.

### **1101.2 Fill Material**

A cesspool, a septic tank, or a seepage pit that has been abandoned or has been discontinued otherwise from further use, or to which no waste or soil pipe from a plumbing fixture is connected, shall have the sewage removed therefrom and be completely filled with the earth, sand, gravel, concrete, or other approved material.

### **1101.3 Filling Requirements**

The top cover or arch over the cesspool, septic tank, or seepage pit shall be removed before filling. The bottom of any tank in the system shall be perforated, such that it is no longer capable of holding liquid. Inspection of the destruction of the tank must occur prior to the filling of the tank. The filling shall not extend above the top of the vertical portions of the sidewalls or above the level of any outlet pipe until inspection has been called and the cesspool, septic tank, or seepage pit has been inspected. After such inspection, the cesspool, septic tank, or seepage pit shall be filled to the level of the top of the ground.

#### 1101.4 Owner

No person owning or controlling a cesspool, septic tank, or seepage pit on the premises of such person or in that portion of any public street, alley, or other public property abutting such premises shall fail, refuse, or neglect to be in accordance with the provisions of this section or upon receipt of notice so to be in accordance with the RMA.

#### 1101.5 Permittee

Where dispersal facilities are abandoned consequent to connecting any premises with the public sewer, the permittee making the connection shall fill all abandoned facilities in accordance with the RMA within 30 days from the time of connecting to the public sewer.

### ***Section 1200 Drawings and Specifications***

#### 1201.1 General

The RMA shall be permitted to require the following information before a permit is issued for a private sewage dispersal system:

1. Plot plan drawn to scale, completely dimensioned, of the parcel and extending at least 150 feet past the property line, showing direction and approximate slope of surface, location of present or proposed retaining walls, drainage channels, water supply lines or wells, paved areas and structures on the plot, number of bedrooms or plumbing fixtures in each structure, and location of the private sewage dispersal system with relation to lot lines and structures.
2. Recommended method of sewage treatment
3. Estimated sewage flow
  - a. Designs for commercial applications shall provide calculations based upon both fixture units and proposed occupancy, for which the final design shall utilize the more conservative calculation.
  - b. Average soil permeability-percolation test results
  - c. Applicable soil application rate [gallons per day per square feet (gpd/sq.ft.)] based on soil group in Table 203 or percolation rates per Section 401.4
  - d. Minimum capacity of septic tank
  - e. With or without garbage disposal (grinder)
  - f. Dispersal Trench /Seepage Pit construction
  - g. Width
  - h. Total depth
  - i. Depth of leach line or inlet to seepage pit
  - j. Spacing between trenches or pits
  - k. Venting system (if required)
  - l. Total dispersal area requirements
  - m. Dispersal area per linear feet allowed or dispersal area provided per pit
  - n. Required total length of dispersal trench or number of pits
  - o. Area of house and number of bedrooms

4. Details of construction necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this LAMP together with a full description of the complete installation including quality, kind, and grade of materials, equipment, construction, workmanship, and methods of assembly and installation.
5. A log of soil formations and groundwater levels as determined by test holes prepared by the qualified professional that are dug in close proximity to a proposed seepage pit or dispersal field, together with a statement of water dispersal characteristics of the soil at the proposed site, as determined by approved percolation tests.

#### 1201.1 Drawing and Specification Validity

All drawings and specifications shall be signed and stamped as appropriate by a Qualified Professional. Submittals will be valid for one-year from the date of submittal to the County.

### ***Section 1300 Site Evaluations/Sewage Feasibility***

#### 1300.1 General

Site evaluations are required for approval of all parcel and subdivision maps and for construction of on-site wastewater systems.

#### 1301.1 Site Preparation and Application

1. With the exception of Water Well Reports and complaint information, RMA parcel files are accessible to the public and customers are encouraged to review their property file before applying for a Site Evaluation.
2. Site Evaluation applications will only be accepted when determined by the RMA to be complete, including the following information:
  - a. Property Identification \Property owner
    - i. Address of proposed/existing residences, if assigned
    - ii. Assessor's parcel number (APN)
    - iii. Narrative describing the basis of the Site Evaluation submittal, which shall include reference to any other related County projects, if applicable.
  - b. Property Characteristics
    - i. Area of the lot (acreage)
    - ii. Topographic relief
    - iii. Vegetation
    - iv. Drainage(s), Lakes, ponds, or reservoirs & flood zone plain/zone info.
    - v. Map should show the following for the subject parcel and within 150 feet on the adjacent parcel(s.)
      1. property boundaries
      2. proposed and existing water well location(s) on the subject parcel
      3. home site
      4. driveway(s) and parking area(s)
      5. out buildings

6. proposed percolation test locations if any
7. proposed test pit locations
8. proposed and existing dispersal fields
9. proposed and existing expansion area(s)
10. stream courses, shallow or outcropping bedrock
11. potential areas of shallow groundwater
12. potential areas of inundation
13. and any other factors which may limit sewage dispersal.

#### 1302.1 Soil Test Hole Requirements

1. Unless otherwise approved by the RMA, a minimum of 2 test holes will be required for the development of a new parcel, with at least one hole excavated in the primary and one hole excavated in the replacement dispersal areas. At the discretion of the RMA, additional test holes may be needed to adequately characterize site conditions or fewer test holes may be allowed based on considerations such as space limitations on smaller parcels or uniformity of area soil characteristics.
2. Test holes must be dug with a backhoe. Soil descriptions may be supplemented with soil boring information, but will not satisfy backhoe test hole requirements.
3. Test holes must be dug a minimum of 5 feet deeper than the proposed bottom of the dispersal system. If a seepage pit is proposed, it will require a test boring to the minimum depth of 10 feet deeper than the proposed design depth.

#### 1303.1 Site Inspection and Evaluation

EHD staff will evaluate the Site Inspection Report submitted by the qualified professional and make an initial determination of whether site conditions are suitable for coverage under the LAMP.

#### 1304.1 Site Evaluation Reports

1. Site Evaluation reports will be deemed to be complete by the EHD when the following additional information is supplied:
  - a. Soil Characteristics
    - i. Perc Test Results: Information should include:
      - 1) a description of the soil (soil group, color, texture, percentage of rock, etc.)
      - 2) evidence of seasonal high groundwater
2. Percolation Test Results: The number of percolation tests performed shall be adequate to demonstrate a representative range of percolation rates within the primary dispersal area as well as the required 100% expansion area.
3. Maximum wastewater flow permitted on the site based on nitrogen loading requirements in section 1400.

#### 1305.1 Site Evaluation Expiration

Site Evaluations will be valid for the lifetime of the parcel as it exists when the evaluation was conducted.

#### 1306.1 Qualified Professional

1. A qualified professional is required for all site evaluations and design submittals. For the purposes of this LAMP, a qualified professional is defined as one of the following:
  - a. Building Inspectors demonstrating knowledge of OWTS by completing coursework relative to the inspection, design and installation of OWTS.
    - i. Examples of coursework include but are not Limited to:
      1. Sacramento State Water Programs Small Wastewater System Operation and Maintenance, Volume I and II.
      2. NAWT/COWA Inspector and O&M Courses
  - b. California Professional Engineer;
  - c. California Engineering Geologist;
  - d. California Professional Hydrogeologist;
  - e. Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS)
  - f. Soil Science of America Certified Soil Scientists

#### **Section 1400 Nitrogen Loading Analysis**

##### 1400.1 General

Septic system density will be limited to one system per acre. Any new development or secondary dwellings will require a nitrogen loading analysis by a qualified professional, demonstrating to the RMA, that the regional characteristics are such that an exception can be made. Supplemental treatment systems for nitrogen reduction will be referred to the RWQCB for permitting.

Consideration of OWTS density, parcel size and potential cumulative OWTS impact issues (e.g., groundwater mounding, nitrate loading) is addressed in Tulare County primarily through Ordinance requirements under Part VII which imposes absorption field size requirements to minimize the cumulative impacts, taking into consideration factors such as constituent levels (e.g., nitrogen content) in the wastewater, the volume of wastewater flow, and the density of OWTS discharges in a given area.

# **Attachment “4”**

## **Full Amendments to the Ordinance Code of Tulare County**





1 effluent dispersal area, and that the required separation between the bottom of the effluent  
2 dispersal system to groundwater and limiting layers has been met.

3  
4 **7-01-1325 LOTS: SIZE AND SHAPE: GENERAL PROVISIONS:**

5 In addition to the other provisions of this Article governing the size and shape of lots, the  
6 following general provisions shall be complied with:

7 (a) The size and shape of lots shall be appropriate for the locality in which the subdivision is  
8 situated, the topography of the land and the proposed use. The body which takes final action  
9 on the tentative map, pursuant to section 7-01-1745 of this Chapter, may require the size and  
10 shape of lots to be adjusted if said body determines that the above criteria have not been  
11 complied with.

12 (b) When computing the required minimum area of lots, any portion of a lot which is within  
13 an F I Zone which is not combined with another zone shall not be included.

14 (c) If sewage disposal is to be provided by individual septic systems, regardless of the means  
15 of providing water to the lots, the net acreage or area shall be used when computing the acreage  
16 or area of the lot.

17  
18 **7-01-1335 SAME: DEFINITIONS FOR SLOPE AREA DIAGRAM:**

19 The following definitions shall govern the use of the diagram set forth in section 7-01-1330 of  
20 this Article:

21 (a) The term "acceptable soils" means soils having the following characteristics:

22 ~~(1) Percolation test results whose rates are between five (5) minutes and sixty (minutes per~~  
23 ~~inch, said percolation tests to be conducted in accordance with procedures and standards~~  
24 ~~established by the Manual of Septic Tank Practice, Public Health Service Publication No. 526~~  
25 ~~of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.~~

26 Percolation test shall be performed in accordance with the Onsite Wastewater Management  
27 Guidance Manual.

28 ~~(2) An average depth of soil mantle of seven (7) feet above bedrock or any underlying~~  
29 ~~saturated zone. The saturated zone is the highest expected water table.~~

1 A site evaluation shall determine that adequate soil depth is present in the effluent dispersal  
2 area. Separation of the bottom of the effluent dispersal system to impermeable soils or  
3 groundwater shall not be less than two (2) feet.

4 (3) The area to be utilized for a disposal field shall not be subject to flooding or ponding by  
5 a ten (10) year flood or storm or of a greater magnitude.

6 (b) The term "poor soils" means soils having the following characteristics:

7 ~~(1) Percolation test results whose rates are between sixty (60) and one hundred twenty (120)~~  
8 ~~minutes per inch, based on the procedures and standards referred to in subsection (a) above.~~

9 Percolation test results in the effluent disposal area shall not be faster than one minute per  
10 inch (1 MPI) or slower than one hundred twenty minutes per inch (120 MPI). All percolation  
11 test rates shall be performed in accordance with the Onsite Wastewater Management  
12 Guidance Manual.

13 ~~(2) An average depth of soil less than (2) feet with inadequate soil structure, soil texture, or~~  
14 ~~displaying evidence of saturation, mantle of three (3) to five (5) feet and/or excessive amounts~~  
15 ~~of clay or critically expansive soils.~~

16 (c) The term "questionable soils" means all soils which do not come within the definition of  
17 "acceptable soils" or "poor soils."

18  
19 **7-01-1340 SAME: DIAGRAM: PERCENTAGE OF SLOPE:**

20 To determine the percentage of slope, for use in the diagram set forth in section ~~7-01-1330~~ of  
21 this Article, the contour measurement method shall be used. The following formula shall be  
22 used to determine the average terrain slope of a given area:

$$S = \frac{2.29 \times 10^{-3} IL}{A}$$

- 23  
24  
25  
26 S = Average slope of terrain in percent.  
27 A = Total number of acres in given area.  
28 L = Length of contour lines in scaled feet.  
29 I = Vertical distance of contour interval in feet.  
30  
31

1 7-01-1345 SAME: DIAGRAM: COMMUNITY SEWAGE SYSTEMS:

2 When a community sewage system is to be provided in a subdivision in a mountainous area,  
3 the minimum lot size may be reduced down to, but not beyond, the minimum lot area  
4 prescribed by Line No. 1 in the diagram set forth in section 7-01-1330 of this Article.

6 7-01-1350 LOTS: SIZE: NON MOUNTAINOUS AREAS:

7 For subdivisions which are not in mountainous areas, the lot sizes shall not be less than the  
8 minimums specified in the Zoning Ordinance and they shall comply with the minimum  
9 requirements in this section as well. ~~The minimum lot area shall be eight thousand square feet~~  
10 ~~(8,000) if water is provided by individual wells and sewage disposal is provided by a community~~  
11 ~~system. The minimum lot area shall be twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) square feet if~~  
12 ~~sewage disposal is provided by individual systems on the lots and water is provided by a~~  
13 ~~community system. If both water and sewage disposal are provided by individual systems on~~  
14 ~~the lots, the minimum lot area shall be one (1) acre. The minimum lot area shall be one acre~~  
15 for parcels created where sewage disposal is provided by individual on site systems. If both  
16 water and sewage disposal are provided by means of community public systems, the minimum  
17 lot area shall be six thousand (6,000) square feet for interior lots and seven thousand (7,000)  
18 square feet for corner lots. These minimum lot areas are based on the subdivision having an  
19 adequate soil mantle depth and soil permeability, and larger lots shall be required when the  
20 subdivision does not meet any of these qualifications.

22 7-01-1390 SEWAGE DISPOSAL: SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM:

23 All lots within a subdivision shall be connected to a sanitary sewer system operated by a  
24 political subdivision if the trunk line or other access point is located within one thousand three  
25 hundred twenty (1,320) feet of any portion of the subdivision. Individually developed parcels  
26 shall be connected to a sanitary sewer system if the trunk line or other access point is located  
27 within two hundred (200) feet of any proposed building or exterior drainage facility. However,  
28 such connection to a sanitary sewer system shall not be required if the political subdivision will  
29 not allow the connection or if the political subdivision will not make satisfactory arrangements  
30 with the subdivider for reimbursement to the subdivider for additional connections to the  
31 sewer line by other property owners outside of the subdivision. If sewage disposal is to be

1 provided pursuant to this section, the governing board controlling the sewer system shall  
 2 submit a letter to the Planning and Development Director indicating the ability of the system  
 3 to handle sewage from the subdivision and that satisfactory arrangements have been made  
 4 with the subdivider for connection to the system.

5  
 6 **7-01-1395 SEWAGE DISPOSAL: SEPTIC TANKS:**

7 If connection to a sanitary sewer system is not required under section ~~7-01-1390~~ of this Article,  
 8 provision shall be made for adequate sewage disposal by the installation of individual sewage  
 9 disposal systems, such as septic tanks and leach lines effluent dispersal systems, unless the body  
 10 taking final action on the tentative map determines that such a method of sewage disposal will  
 11 not be adequate for the subdivision or would be in violation of the Subdivision Map Act. A  
 12 letter shall be submitted by the County Health Department certifying that field investigation,  
 13 and the tests and reports submitted by the subdivider, show that ground slopes and soil  
 14 conditions will allow satisfactory sewage disposal by this method, with the lot arrangement  
 15 and the sizes as set forth on the subdivision map. Individual sewage systems shall comply with  
 16 all applicable provisions of Chapter 13 (commencing with section ~~4-13-1000~~) of Part IV of this  
 17 Ordinance Code and, to protect water quality and public health, shall comply with the  
 18 following setback requirements:

19 **SETBACK REQUIREMENTS IN FEET**

20 Facility	Drainage Course, Ditch or <u>Ephemeral Stream (a)</u>	Cut <del>_____</del> or <u>Fill Bank</u>
21 Septic tank or sewer line	25	40
22 Leaching field	50	(b)
23 Seepage Pit	50	(b)
24 Facility	Property <u>Line (c)</u>	Lake <del>_____</del> or <u>Reservoir (d)</u>
25 Septic tank or sewer line	25	50
26 Leaching field	50	200
27 Seepage Pit	75	200

28 (a) ~~As measured from the edge of the drainage course, ditch or stream.~~

29 (b) ~~Distance in feet equals four (4) times the vertical height of the cut or fill bank. Distance is~~  
 30 ~~measured from the top edge of the bank or the toe edge of the fill.~~

1 ~~(c) This distance shall be maintained when individual wells are to be installed and the County~~  
 2 ~~Health Officer determines that the minimum distance between waste disposal and wells cannot be~~  
 3 ~~assured.~~

4 ~~(d) As measured from the high water line~~  
 5

Table 7-01-1395 Minimum Required Setback Distances for OWTS			
Site Feature	Septic Tank	Dispersal Field	Seepage Pit
Non-Public Water Supply Wells and Springs	100 feet	100 feet <sup>1</sup>	150 feet <sup>1</sup>
Public Water Supply Wells and Springs	100 feet <sup>3</sup>	150 feet <sup>1, 2, 3, 10</sup>	150 feet <sup>1, 2, 3, 10</sup>
Property line adjoining private property (with domestic well)	25 feet	50 feet	75 feet
Property line adjoining private property (with municipal water)	5 feet	5 feet	75 feet
Watercourses: -General -Between 1,200 to 2,500 feet from a Public Water System intake -Within 1,200 feet from a Public Water System intake	100 feet <sup>2, 10</sup> 100 feet 100 feet	100 feet <sup>2, 10</sup> 200 feet 400 feet	150 feet <sup>2, 10</sup> 200 feet 400 feet
Drainage way/swale, ephemeral streams, creeks, unlined irrigation ditch or canal, and other flowing or surface bodies of water	100 feet <sup>4</sup>	100 feet <sup>4</sup>	150 feet <sup>4</sup>
Lakes, ponds, stormwater/recharge basins, and other surface water bodies	100 feet	200 feet	200 feet
Lined ditches, lined canals, lined watertight	15 feet	15 feet	15 feet
Residential on-site stormwater basins	15 feet	15 feet	15 feet
Seepage Pits <sup>4</sup>	5 feet	5 feet	12 feet
Dispersal field <sup>4</sup>	5 feet	4 feet <sup>6</sup>	5 feet
Cuts or steep embankments (from top of cut)	10 feet	4xh <sup>7, 8</sup>	4xh <sup>7, 8</sup>
Steep slopes (from break of slope)	10 feet	4xh <sup>7, 8</sup>	4xh <sup>7, 8</sup>
Unstable Land Mass <sup>9</sup>	100 feet	100 feet	100 feet

1. Drainage piping shall clear domestic water supply wells by not less than 50 feet. This distance shall be permitted to be reduced to not less than 25 feet where the drainage piping is constructed of materials approved for use within a building.
2. Where the effluent dispersal system is within 1,200 feet from a public water systems' surface water intake point, within the catchment of the drainage, and located such that it may impact water quality at the intake point such as upstream of the intake point for flowing water bodies, the dispersal system shall be no less than 400 feet from the high-water mark of the reservoir, lake or flowing water body. Where the effluent dispersal system is located more than 1,200 but less than 2,500 feet from a public water systems' surface water intake point, the dispersal system shall be no less than 200 feet from the high-water mark of the reservoir, lake, or flowing water body.
3. The horizontal separation distances are generally considered adequate where a significant layer of unsaturated, unconsolidated sediment less permeable than sand is encountered between ground surface and groundwater. These distances are based on present knowledge and past experience. Local conditions may require greater separation distances to ensure groundwater quality protection.
4. These minimum clear horizontal distances shall also apply between dispersal fields, seepage pits, and the mean high-tide line.
5. Where dispersal fields, seepage pits, or both are installed on sloping ground, the minimum horizontal distance between any part of the leaching system and ground surface shall be 15 feet.
6. Plus 2 feet for each additional 1 foot of depth in excess of 1 foot below the bottom of the drain line.
7.  $h$  equals the height of the cut or embankment, in feet. The required setback distance shall not be less than 25 feet nor more than 100 feet.
8. Steep slope is considered to be land with a slope of  $>30\%$  and distinctly steeper (at least  $20\%$  steeper) than the slope of the adjacent tank or dispersal field area.
9. Unstable land mass or any areas subject to earth slides identified by a registered engineer or registered geologist; other setback distances are allowed, if recommended by a geotechnical report prepared by a qualified professional.
10. Where the dispersal system is greater than 20' in depth, and less than 600' from public water supply well, then the setback must be greater than the distance for two-year travel time of microbiological contaminants, as determined by qualified professional. In no case, shall the setback be less than 200'.

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**7-01-1400 SAME: COMMUNITY DISPOSAL SYSTEM:**

If connection to a sanitary sewer system is not required under section 7-01-1390 of this Article, and if the body which takes action on the final map determines that individual sewage disposal systems shall not be used pursuant to section 7-01-1395 of this Article, then the subdivider shall construct a community disposal system. Plans for such sewage systems shall be submitted to the County Health Department for approval. Construction shall not be commenced upon any such system until all portions of the system have been approved, in writing, by the County Health Department and until provision has been made for maintenance of the system after it is constructed.

**7-01-1405 SEWAGE SYSTEMS: SIZE REQUIREMENTS:**

~~In cases where individual sewage systems are proposed, the absorption field shall be calculated by the following two tables:~~

The Tulare County On-Site Wastewater Guidance Manual (Manual) shall govern the siting, design, installation, component quality, operation, monitoring, and maintenance of on-site

1 wastewater systems in Tulare County. Copies of the Manual will be maintained and made  
2 available to the public at the RMA and EHD offices.

3  
4 The Tulare County Manual shall be adopted by resolution of the Tulare County Board of  
5 Supervisors. The RMA, based on observed need, may propose modifications of the Manual.  
6 When changes are proposed to the Manual, the changes shall be presented to the Board for  
7 adoption by an amending resolution.

8 ~~TABLE 1. ABSORPTION AREA REQUIREMENTS FOR~~  
9 ~~INDIVIDUAL RESIDENCES (a)~~

<del>Percolation rate (time required for water to fall one (1) inch) (e)</del>	<del>Required absorption area in square feet per bedroom (b), standard trench (c), seepage beds (c), and seepage pits (d)</del>
<del>5 minutes</del>	<del>125 square feet</del>
<del>10 "</del>	<del>165 " "</del>
<del>15 "</del>	<del>190 " "</del>
<del>30 (f) "</del>	<del>250 " "</del>
<del>45 (f) "</del>	<del>300 " "</del>
<del>60 (f)(g) "</del>	<del>330 " "</del>

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24 ~~(a) Regardless of any other provisions of this Chapter establishing minimum parcel size~~  
25 ~~minimum size of every lot an entirely system to be constructed in the future if the original~~  
26 ~~system should fail.~~

27 ~~(b) In every case, sufficient land area shall be provided for the number of bedrooms~~  
28 ~~(minimum of two (2)) that can be reasonably anticipated, including the unfinished space~~  
29 ~~available for conversion into additional bedrooms.~~

30 ~~(b) Absorption area is figured as trench bottom area and includes a statistical allowance for~~  
31 ~~vertical side wall area.~~



- 1 ~~(e) Absorption area for seepage pits is figured as effective side wall area beneath the inlet.~~  
 2 ~~(e) If the percolation rate is not shown on this Table, the required absorption area shall be~~  
 3 ~~determined by using a straight line interpolation of absorption area requirements as set forth~~  
 4 ~~in the Manual of Septic Tank Practices, Public Health Service Publication No. 526 of the~~  
 5 ~~Department of Health, Education and Welfare.~~  
 6 ~~(f) Unsuited for seepage pits if over thirty (30) minutes per inch. A special design system is~~  
 7 ~~required.~~  
 8 ~~(g) Unsuited for absorption system if over sixty (60) minutes per inch. A special design~~  
 9 ~~system is required.~~

10 ~~TABLE 2. ALLOWABLE REDUCTION BY PERCENTAGE OF LENGTH OF~~  
 11 ~~STANDARD LEACH LINE TRENCH (a)~~

12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Depth of Trench	Trench	Trench	Trench	Trench	Trench	Trench
gravel width	width	width	width	width	width	width
below pipe						
in inches (a)						
19	18"	64%(b)	66%(b)	71%(b)	75%(b)	78%(b)
20	24	54	57	62	66	70
21	30	47	50	55	60	64
22	36	41	44	50	54	58
23	42	37	40	45	50	54

24 The "standard" leach line trench which serves as the standard for this chart is one in which the filter  
 25 material extends two (2) inches above and twelve (12) inches below the pipe.

26 (b) This is the percentage of the required length of the standard trench.

27 For leach line trenches or seepage beds having widths not shown in Table 2, the percent of length of  
 28 standard leach line trench shall be computed as follows:

29 Percent of length standard leach line trench =

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$$\frac{w+2}{w+1+2d \times 100}$$

Where w = width of leach line trench in feet  
d = depth of gravel below pipe in feet

**7-01-1410 SAME: SPECIAL ALTERNATIVE DESIGN SEWAGE SYSTEMS:**

Alternative dispersal systems are a type of system that utilizes a method of wastewater dispersal other than a standard effluent dispersal field in native soil. These systems may be permitted after approval of the design prepared by a State of California registered civil engineer, registered geologist, registered environmental health specialist, a certified soil scientist, or other approved professional. Any OWTS or component of an OWTS, except a septic tank or dosing tank, that performs additional wastewater treatment so that the effluent meets a predetermined performance requirement prior to discharge of effluent into the dispersal field shall not be approved.

~~(a) A special design sewage disposal system is one which exceeds or varies significantly from the criteria set forth in the Uniform Plumbing Code. The following procedures and criteria are applicable for special design sewage disposal systems where the soil conditions, hydrology, topography or ultimate use precludes compliance with the minimum requirements for on lot sewage disposal, including any of the following conditions:~~

~~(1) Percolation rates slower than sixty (60) minutes per inch for disposal fields, slower than thirty (30) minutes per inch for seepage pits, or rates faster than five (5) minutes per inch. Percolation rates greater than one hundred twenty (120) minutes per inch are not suitable for in-ground percolation systems.~~

~~(2) Installations on slopes greater than thirty percent (30%).~~

~~(3) Ground water table less than five (5) feet below the leaching trench.~~

~~(4) For any use other than single family residential use.~~

~~(b) Special design systems shall be prepared by a registered civil engineer, registered engineering geologist, registered sanitarian, or other competent persons who are registered professionals knowledgeable and experienced in the field of sewage disposal system design and installation. All special design disposal system plans, specifications and engineering data shall be submitted to the County Health Department for review, evaluation and final approval.~~

1 ~~(e) A plot plan of the proposed special design system shall be filed in triplicate and shall~~  
2 ~~include the following data:~~

3 ~~(1) Assessor's parcel number.~~

4 ~~(2) Address of property, with sufficient information to accurately locate the property on the~~  
5 ~~soils map of Tulare County.~~

6 ~~(3) Owner's address and telephone number.~~

7 ~~(4) Name of the individual or firm designing the plan, address and telephone number.~~

8 ~~(5) Plot plan of site indicating north arrow, location of proposed improvements on property~~  
9 ~~(dwelling, driveways, walks, water, gas lines, other structures) and location of all existing wells~~  
10 ~~and sewage disposal systems, if any are located on adjacent property within fifty (50) feet of~~  
11 ~~the property lot line.~~

12  
13 **7-01-1415 DOMESTIC WATER: MEANS OF SUPPLYING:**

14 Provisions shall be made for providing an adequate and safe supply of water to all lots in the  
15 subdivision and no tentative subdivision map shall be approved unless there is assurance of  
16 such an adequate and safe supply of water. Subject to the requirements of section 7-01-1420  
17 and 7-01-1425 of this Article, water may be supplied by one of the following means:

18 (a) Connection to a public utility, in which case a letter from the public utility company shall  
19 be submitted to the Planning Director indicating its ability to serve the proposed subdivision.

20 (b) Establishment of a mutual or private water system subject to approval by the County  
21 Health Department of the quality and safety of the proposed water supply.

22 (c) Service from individual wells or springs which have been approved by the County Health  
23 Department as to the quality and safety of the proposed supply.

24 The water systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with the standards referred  
25 to in section 7-01-2025 of this Chapter.

26  
27 **7-01-1420 SAME: PLANNED DEVELOPMENT FOOTHILL ZONE AND MOUNTAINOUS**  
28 **AREAS:**

29 (a) If any lot in the subdivision is less than five (5) acres in size, and all or a portion of the  
30 subdivision is in a mountainous area, domestic water for the subdivision shall be supplied only  
31 by the means set forth in subsection (a) or in subsection (b) of section 7-01-1415 of this Article,

1 and water shall not be supplied from individual wells or springs pursuant to subsection (c) of  
2 section 7-01-1413.

3 (b) Regardless of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, if any lot in the subdivision  
4 is less than ten (10) acres in size, and all or a portion of the subdivision is within the boundaries  
5 of the PD F, Planned Development Foothill Zone, established pursuant to the Zoning  
6 Ordinance, domestic water for the subdivision shall be supplied only by the means set forth in  
7 subsection (a) or in subsection (b) of section 7-01-1413 of this Article.

8  
9 **7-01-1725 FINAL GEOLOGICAL HYDROLOGICAL REPORT:**

10 (11) If individual sewage disposal systems are to be used in the subdivision, the report shall  
11 include recommendations regarding the location, type and size of such individual systems.  
12 Such recommendations shall be based upon the geological and soil analysis included in the  
13 report and shall take into consideration the uses allowed under existing or proposed zoning. If  
14 a community sewage system is to be used, the report shall also set forth recommendations  
15 regarding the disposal of the effluent from the terminal treatment facility and conclusions  
16 concerning the effect of such disposal in terms of the current standards of the California  
17 Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Central Valley Region.

18  
19 **7-01-1730 SAME: FEES FOR HEALTH OFFICER REVIEW:**

20 At the time of filing the final geological hydrological report and any results of percolation tests  
21 and soil borings required by section 7-01-1735, the subdivider shall pay the initial fee set forth  
22 in Article 5 of this Chapter to the Planning and Development Director to defray the expenses  
23 of the County Health Officer in reviewing the report. The County Health Officer shall keep  
24 accurate records of the actual costs associated with the review. Upon completion of the review  
25 and approval of the report, the Health Officer shall bill the subdivider for the actual costs of  
26 the review in excess of the initial fee and the subdivider shall pay the cost thereof to the Health  
27 Officer. The Planning and Development Director shall not set a date for the public hearing on  
28 the tentative map pursuant to section 7-01-1750 of this Article until the fee for the Health  
29 Officer's review of the final geological hydrological report and any results of percolation tests  
30 and soil borings is paid.

1 **7-01-1735 PERCOLATION TESTS AND SOIL BORINGS:**

2 Unless the subdivision is to be served by a sanitary sewer system, the tentative map shall be  
3 accompanied by the results of percolation tests and soil borings conducted in the subdivision.  
4 Such tests shall be conducted by a State of California registered civil engineer, registered  
5 geologist, ~~a sanitarian~~ registered environmental health specialist ~~by the,~~ or a ~~specialist in~~  
6 certified soil analysis scientist. The report on such tests may be included in the final geological  
7 hydrological report prepared pursuant to section 7-01-1725 of this Article. The percolation  
8 tests shall be adequate in number to show the absorptive and filtering ability of soils  
9 throughout the subdivision. ~~These tests shall be made at the depth of the proposed trenches or~~  
10 ~~at least five (5) feet deep.~~ Unless otherwise specified, the test hole depth for percolation tests  
11 shall be deeper than the proposed dispersal system bottom depth and within the most  
12 restrictive strata of useable soil beneath the dispersal field. The soil borings shall be adequate  
13 in number to show the type of soil and ground water level, if existing beneath the absorption  
14 area. ~~and shall be at least seven (7) feet deep~~ A high or low percolation rate in conjunction with  
15 a steep slope area shall be reported and corrective measures proposed. Such percolation tests  
16 and soil borings shall be conducted in accordance with procedures and standards established  
17 ~~by the Manual of Septic Tank Practice, Public Health Service Publication No. 526 of the~~  
18 ~~Department of Health, Education and Welfare and shall be conducted under the supervision~~  
19 ~~of the County Health Department.~~ the California Water Quality Control Policy for Siting,  
20 Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems and California  
21 Plumbing Code.

22  
23 **7-01-1740 SOIL INVESTIGATION:**

24 (a) In accordance with sections 17953-17957 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of  
25 California, and sections 66490-66491 of the Government Code of the State of California, if the  
26 final geological hydrological report prepared pursuant to section 7-01-1725 of this Article  
27 indicates the presence of critically expansive or loosely deposited soils or other soil problems  
28 which, if not corrected, would lead to structural defects, a soil investigation of each affected lot  
29 in the subdivision shall be prepared by a registered civil engineer. The soil investigation shall  
30 recommend corrective action which will adequately prevent structural damage to each

1 dwelling proposed to be constructed on such soils. The report of the soil investigation shall be  
2 filed with the Planning and Development Director.

3 (b) The Planning and Development Director shall review the soil investigation report and, if  
4 he determines that the recommended corrective action will adequately prevent structural  
5 damage to each dwelling to be constructed in the subdivision, he shall approve it. If the  
6 Planning and Development Director determines that the recommended corrective action will  
7 not be adequate, he shall notify the person preparing the report of the inadequacies. Until the  
8 Planning and Development Director determines that the report, or amended report, contains  
9 recommendations that meet with his approval, the final subdivision map shall not be approved.  
10 All building permits issued for construction of dwellings in the subdivision shall be conditioned  
11 upon the incorporation of the approved recommended corrective action in the construction of  
12 each dwelling. Appeal from such determination shall be to the local appeals board established  
13 pursuant to the Uniform Building Code.

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15 **7-15-1575 WELLS:**

16 The provisions of Part IV (Health, Safety, and Sanitation), Article 1 (General Provisions),  
17 Chapter 13 (Wells) commencing with Section ~~4-13-1000~~ (Legislative Authority) of this  
18 Ordinance Code shall prevail over the provisions of this Article and the California Plumbing  
19 Code with regard to the location of wells in relation to property lines, septic tanks and the  
20 other objects and land uses for which minimum distances are established by said Chapter 13  
21 (Wells).

22  
23 Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days from the date of the passage hereof,  
24 or if published more than 15 days after the date of passage, then 30 days after publication, whichever  
25 is later, and, shall be published once in the Visalia Times Delta, a newspaper printed and published  
26 in the County of Tulare, State of California, together with the names of the members of the Board of  
27 Supervisors voting for and against the same.

28 THE FOREGOING ORDINANCE was passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of  
29 the County of Tulare, State of California, on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018, at a regular meeting of said  
30 Board, duly and regularly convened on said day, by the following roll call vote:

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NOES:

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ABSENT:

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Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: MICHAEL C. SPATA  
County Administrative Officer/Clerk  
Board of Supervisors

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

# **Attachment “5”**

## **Notice of Exemption**



# Notice of Exemption

Fee Exempt per Government Code Section 6103

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Tulare County Clerk  
Room 105, Courthouse  
221 South Mooney Boulevard  
Visalia, California 93291

Date Filed with Tulare County Clerk

Lead Agency: Tulare County Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Boulevard  
Visalia, CA 93277 Ph: 559.624.7000

Applicant(s): Tulare County Resource Management Agency  
5961 South Mooney Boulevard  
Visalia, CA 93277 Ph: 559.624.7000

Activity / Project Title: **Local Agency Management Program**

Activity / Project Location – Specific: N/A

Activity / Project Location- Section, Township, Range: N/A

Activity / Project Location – City: N/A

Activity / Project Location - County: Tulare County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project/Activity: This Project/Activity involves the Tulare County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Onsite Water Treatment Systems (OWTS) under California Water Code Sections 13290 et. seq.... The LAMP develops minimum standards for the treatment and ultimate disposal of sewage through the use of Septic Treatment Systems in non-sewered unincorporated areas of Tulare County.

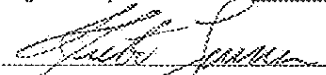
**Exempt Status:**


- Ministerial under California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 17 (Exemption for a Certified State Regulatory Program);
- Declared Emergency (Sections 21080(b)(3);15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sections 21080(b)(4);15269(b)(c));
- General Rule Exemption: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b) (3);
- Categorical Exemption: State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction) (Class 2 Exemption);
- Statutory Exemptions:

Reasons why activity / project are exempt from CEQA: This is a Ministerial Exemption from CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 17 (Exemption for a Certified State Regulatory Program).

Name of Public Agency Approving Activity / Project: County of Tulare, Resource Management Agency

Activity / Project Representative: Aaron Bock Area Code/Telephone: (559) 624-7050

Signature:  Date: 3/28/18 Title: Chief Environmental Planner  
Hector Gilerra

Signature:  Date: 3/28/18 Title: Environmental Assessment Officer  
Reed Schenke, P.E.

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: N/A