

OWTS Manual

Overview of Proposed Revisions

(Relative to April 27, 2018 version)

Section 1 – no proposed revisions

Section 2 – no proposed revisions

Section 3 – Definitions

New / edited definitions for:

- Code Compliant OWTS
- Land Encumbrance
- Legal Non-Conforming OWTS
- Reconstruction

Deleting the following:

- Major Addition
- Major Rebuild
- Minor Addition
- Minor Rebuild
- Remodel
- Removal and/or Replacement

Section 4 – Criteria for All OWTS

Adding provision to subsection 4.9.D to allow 25% of new leach line as a repair.
Many editorial / clarification revisions

Section 5 – OWTS Abatements and Abandonments

Adding section 5.3 for Repairs of Failing Systems
Application requirements
Required department response times

Section 6 – Requirements for Approval of Building Permits

Old section is being deleted and replaced with an approach consistent with Sonoma County Code section 7.5(c).

Generally speaking either a new system or an evaluation of existing systems will be required when new flows or changes in waste strength are proposed to ensure a code compliant system.

When no additional flows/increase in strength is proposed, such as adding space or remodeling, the proposed requirements calls for a septic system (tank and dispersal field) to be documented.

When structural improvements (new structures or additions) may infringe on existing systems and/or replacement areas, the physical locations of the two (proposed structure and septic system) will be evaluated.

When structural improvements start to imbed on the properties ability to absorb sewage effluent, replacement areas may be required.

Section 7 – Site Evaluation Methods and Investigation Requirements
Adding section 7.12 to address potential cumulative impacts.

Section 8 – no proposed revisions

Section 9 – Criteria for Standard OWTS
Adding Table 9.1 – Illustrative Table for Linear Footage of Leach Line per Number of Bedrooms for a Standard Septic System

Section 10 – no proposed revisions

Section 11 – no proposed revisions

Section 12 – Criteria for Non-Standard Experimental OWTS

Revising title to be – Non-Standard Experimental and Alternative OWTS Approval Process

Revising and elaborating on criteria for new technology to be included in the County's experimental system program.

Revising and elaborating on criteria for new technology to be included in the County's alternative system program.

Adding a list of the currently approved experimental and alternative systems

Moving the construction standards for the two approved experimental systems (bottomless sand filter and gavel-less pressurized dispersal) to Section 13.

Section 13 – Criteria for Non-Standard Alternative OWTS

Revising title to be – Non-Standard Experimental and Alternative OWTS Construction Standards

Moving/inserting the construction standards for the two approved experimental systems to the beginning of Section 13. New sections 13.1 and 13.2

Re-numbering the existing sections

Moving Pretreatment Unit section to end of section 13. Now section 13.9.

Section 14 – no proposed revisions

Section 15 – no proposed revisions

Section 16 – no proposed revisions

Section 17 – Variance Requirements

Revising/adding to the listing of common variance requests and associated standards

Section 18 – no proposed revisions

Section 19 – no proposed revisions

Section 20 – no proposed revisions

Appendix A – new appendix to list approved experimental and alternative OWTS