



News Advisory

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD | 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P. O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

Public Workshop on Draft Septic System Policy in Riverside

Two meetings, 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. set for Monday Nov. 7

**For Immediate Release
November 4, 2011**

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(Day of Event)**

WHAT: Draft Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (Septic Systems) Policy

- The State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) has drafted a new policy to meet the legal mandate that requires the State Water Board to develop statewide standards for septic systems, also known as onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS). This proposed statewide policy is designed to ensure that surface waters and ground waters are safe for beneficial uses. The proposed policy can be found by visiting the OWTS website at : http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/index.shtml

WHERE & WHEN: Southern California Public Workshop to Solicit Public Comment

- The Southern California Public Workshop is scheduled in the University Theater at the University of California, Riverside on **Monday November 7**. There are two sessions: **1 to 4 p.m.** and **6 to 9 p.m.** For a map link to the meeting, visit: <http://culturalevents.ucr.edu/directions.htm>
- The Riverside public workshops are the final of four regional meetings, with two sessions each, scheduled throughout the state to solicit public comment on the draft policy prior to the public comment period deadline.
- The public comment period ends on Monday November 14, 2011.

Please visit the OWTS website for more information on locations and direction for these public meetings at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/meetings.shtml

BACKGROUND: The State Water Board began work on this latest policy following public workshops conducted in 2008. As a result of public feedback, the State Water Board went back to the drawing board with the goal of developing standards that meet the mandate to protect surface and groundwater quality while impacting the minimum number of OWTS owners. With this draft proposed policy, it is expected that the majority of OWTS owners in the state will not be affected by the new standards.