



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

Proposed Draft Statewide Septic Tank Policy Released

Public Comment Period Begins, Four Regional Meetings Scheduled

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**Contact: George Kostyrko
(916) 341-5254**

WHAT: Draft Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (Septic Systems) Draft Now Available

- 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
- The public comment period ends on Monday November 14, 2011.

WHERE & WHEN: Four Regional Public Meetings to Solicit Public Comments

- Four regional meetings with two sessions each are scheduled throughout the state to solicit public comment on the draft documents prior to the public comment period deadline. Locations and dates include:
 - **San Luis Obispo** – Monday, October 24 *Two sessions* 1 to 4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m.
Map Link To Meeting: <http://g.co/maps/pye2s>
 - **Redding** – Friday, October 28 *Two sessions* 1 to 4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m.
Map Link To Meeting: <http://g.co/maps/8cst>
 - **Santa Rosa** – Wednesday, November 2 *Two sessions* 1 to 4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m.
Map Link To Meeting: <http://g.co/maps/9jhx>
 - **Riverside** – Monday, November 7 *Two sessions* 1 to 4 p.m. and 6- p.m.
Map Link To Meeting: <http://culturalevents.ucr.edu/directions.htm>

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 need 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.