

Septic System Destruction Permits

PURPOSE

To establish a process and procedure for the evaluation and approval of septic system destruction projects.

GENERAL

From time to time a septic system must be destroyed and the work accomplished in a way which will prevent health and safety concerns.

AUTHORITY

Sonoma County Code Chapter 7

FORMS

Septic System Destruction Application Form

PROCEDURE

The destruction of a septic system shall be accomplished under permit and inspection of the Well and Septic Section. An application shall be made on forms provided and the established fee tendered. In addition to the application, a plot plan and written description is required.

Plot Plan of the site (to scale) showing:

1. Location of septic system(s) to be destroyed.
2. Location of any wells within 150' of the septic system.
3. Location of existing or proposed public and/or private sewer lines
4. Location of structures on property.
5. Street location and driveway.

Written Description of the method by which the septic system is to be destroyed. At a minimum, the following destruction procedure is required:

1. The tank shall be pumped by a licensed septic tank pumper.

2. The lid should be removed from the site, or disposed of as in #4 below.
3. Break a hole in the bottom of each section of the tank to provide for drainage.
4. Backfill the tank with a sand/pea gravel mix or river run material to a depth of approximately one foot below finish grade. (The tank lid may be broken into small pieces and placed into the tank with the gravel, being careful not to create any hollow voids.) The remaining fill to surface level may be of any suitable material and should be graded to drain.
5. An option is to remove the entire tank from the site after pumping, and fill and compact the hole with a suitable material under the guidance of a licensed civil or geotechnical engineer. If this option is chosen, the applicant should contact the county landfill ahead of time to see if disposal of the tank is currently allowed.

The staff person will evaluate and approve or deny the permit and will, upon completion of the work, approve or deny the work as accomplished.

Approved by:

Date posted 9/27/02

/s/ Richard L. Holmer

Richard L. Holmer, Operations Manager

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