

Process to Use an Existing Septic System that was Installed Prior to July 2016

(Reference: Yolo County Code Sec. 6-19.623)

If a system will be used in a different capacity from its original design – new building connection, additional wastewater load, increase in potential occupancy (bedroom increase), change of use (residential to commercial) - and the system was installed prior to required LAMP changes, the following applies:

1. **Request Site Evaluation/Soil Profiles (\$1361)**: The system will need to meet current standards (verification of horizontal and vertical setbacks) and will need to be evaluated under current application rates, which requires site and soil information. All of the following are required:
 - Hire an approved septic system qualified professional / septic system designer (list attached) to conduct a site evaluation, which shall include soil profiles. This is to be done in conjunction with Yolo County Environmental Health (YCEH) (see below). The proposed septic connection/use is discussed onsite.
 - An approved septic system design is based on the site and the soils. There are required horizontal setbacks (e.g., surface setbacks from wells, easements, drainage, etc.) that will be reviewed. There are also required vertical setbacks to soil limiting layers (e.g., clay, bedrock, etc.) or to groundwater that will be taken into consideration.
 - The qualified professional then submits a site evaluation report; this may or may not include a proposed septic design.
 - Submit a Site Evaluation/Soil Profile Request form (attached) for YCEH to perform a site evaluation. This site evaluation is done in conjunction with the hired qualified professional (see #1 above), and all horizontal and vertical setbacks are reviewed and recorded.
 - The site will be reviewed and approved by YCEH if all setbacks (horizontal and vertical) are met based on the site evaluation report submitted by the designer, and the inspection by YCEH.
2. **Submit a complete Site Evaluation Report by your Qualified Septic Professional**: The report should meet requirements in the YCEH Septic manual, and also include the following:
 - The proposed wastewater flow rate (gallons per day), and
 - The Qualified Professional's analysis of this proposed connection to the existing system.
3. **Submit a Service Request for a Septic System Evaluation with the applicable fee (\$929)**:
(Exception: Skip this requirement if there is a finalized YCEH Septic Permit on file, because conceivably the necessary septic information and dimensions are available with this permit).
All of the following are required with this Service Request:
 - Site map (drawn-to-scale) showing all site features with all components of the existing septic system, and
 - Provide the following septic system :
 - Septic tank size and type
 - Leach line dimensions: length, width, depth.
4. **Submit Evaluation Report from a Septic Contractor/Pumper**: To determine that this system is in good condition and can accept additional waste, a report form a Yolo County Septic Contractor/Pumper is required with the following information:
 - Pump receipt
 - Tank status: size, volume, type, condition
 - Hydraulic Load Test: method and results

YCEH will evaluate the use of this existing system given the information above. There are two (2) possible results:

- ❖ The system is approved for connection with possible conditions, such as addition of tank risers and effluent filters, or a modification to the system with a System Installation Permit for any necessary modifications.
- or -
- ❖ The existing system is found to not meet current standards, and a new system for the project is required.
 - *Please know: If the existing system is currently servicing a building for the use of which it was previously designed, YCEH will not require the existing system to be replaced. Any existing system that is functional in Yolo County can continue to operate as-is under the old standards (with the exception of cesspools or any other extreme circumstances that could affect public health).*