



# County of Yolo

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Environmental Health Division

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## OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING (OM&M) REQUIREMENTS for COMMON TYPES OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS

*For a complete description of Yolo County approved septic systems and subsequent requirements,  
 please refer to the Yolo County Environmental Health (YCEH) Septic Manual*

Type of System:	<b>STANDARD / GRAVITY-FED</b>
Constraints to Address:	None. ( <i>Minimum 5 foot vertical separation</i> ).
What to know:	Consists of a septic tank and a leach field. Effluent from the septic tank is dispersed to the soil in the leach field via gravity; this effluent can also be pumped to the leach field, but this is uncommon. The leach field is passive and depends on gravity flow.
OM&M Requirements:	Owner education, Owner's manual and maintenance checklist

Type of System:	<b>PRESSURE-DISTRIBUTION (PD)</b>
Constraints to Address:	High groundwater, shallow soil over a limiting layer, slow percolation rates, steep terrain, and/or limited dispersal areas. ( <i>Minimum 3 foot vertical separation</i> ).
What to know:	PD systems are an alternative to a standard gravity system that uses a pump and small-diameter pressure piping to achieve broad, uniform distribution of wastewater for improved soil absorption and better treatment of percolating effluent. There is an electrical panel controlling the pump in the tank; there is an alarm that will activate when the water level in the tank is too high.
OM&M Requirements:	Owner education, Owner's manual and maintenance checklist

Type of System:	<b>SUPPLEMENTAL TREATMENT UNITS</b>
Constraints to Address:	High groundwater, shallow soil over soil limiting layer, slow percolation rates, limited areas, and/or Nitrogen limitations. ( <i>Minimum 2 foot vertical separation</i> ).
What to know:	<p>This is an additional septic system component that uses an advanced method of effluent treatment, providing supplemental treatment of septic tank effluent prior to discharge to the leach field.</p> <p>Supplemental treatment units include the following proprietary units (<i>must be NSF approved</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aerobic Treatment Units (ATUs): forced air is used to oxidize wastewater, promoting aerobic treatment. These systems have an air pump in the unit, and a pump in the pump tank to disperse the clarified effluent to the leach field. There is an electrical panel to operate the pump(s); there is an alarm that will activate when the water level in the tank is too high.</li> <li>▪ Media Filter Treatment Units: effluent is passed through a textile media filter, promoting wastewater clarification. These systems have a pump to force effluent through the media, and a pump in the pump tank to disperse the clarified effluent to the leach field. There is an electrical panel to operate the pump(s); there is an alarm that will activate when the water level in the tank is too high.</li> </ul>
OM&M Requirements:	Owner education, Owner's manual and maintenance checklist, Annual Operating Permit with annual reporting to YCEH