



County of Riverside
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

P.O. BOX 7909 • RIVERSIDE, CA 92513-7909

STEVE VAN STOCKUM, DIRECTOR

Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) Overview

Background:

In 2012, the State Water Resources Control Board established minimum requirements for installation, performance and maintenance of on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS). Local agencies could either adopt the statewide minimum standards when they become effective in May 2018, or propose a LAMP to the Regional Water Quality Control Board(s) for approval. An approved LAMP would allow a local agency greater flexibility in approving OWTS that do not meet the OWTS Policy minimum standards, but could still satisfy the water quality protection objectives of the Policy. If the Department of Environmental Health did not develop the LAMP, the standards set by the State could render many parcels as unbuildable if they plan to use OWTS.

Current Status:

Department staff met with all three Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) while developing and revising the LAMP. The final version of the LAMP is scheduled for adoption by the Regional Water Board on November 17, 2016, and will take effect approximately 30 days later. The LAMP will allow Riverside County to continue its current practice of approving OWTS on .5 acre parcels, approving the installation of advanced treatment and engineered systems, and will still allow some moderately sized subdivisions on OWTS to continue. The LAMP will impose the following restrictions on new OWTS and tracts proposing to utilize OWTS:

- Parcel maps or tract maps utilizing OWTS will be limited to 40 lots (minimum .5 acre) unless the individual lot size is 2.5 acres or greater.
- Projects exceeding 40 lots in which the lot size is less than 2.5 acres will be required to provide for the extension or development of a sanitary sewer system.
- This change in policy will prohibit large housing tracts on small lots from utilizing OWTS, and encourage bringing sewer to the area.
- The 40 lot maximum was determined based upon the State Water Resources Control Board OWTS Policy definition of a single-family dwelling unit generating an average of 250 gallons of wastewater per day. The maximum daily flow that qualifies for oversight under the LAMP is 10,000 gallons per day. $10,000/250 = 40$.
- Maximum daily flows for commercial projects will increase from 1,200 gallons/day/project in the San Diego Region, and 5,000 gallons/day/project in the Santa Ana Region, to 10,000 gallons/day/project under the LAMP.
- Without an approved LAMP, the OWTS Policy minimum standards would require ALL newly created lots in Riverside County be at least 2.5 acres and could have rendered some existing lots unbuildable due to not being able to approve alternative engineered systems.