Local Agency Management Plan Development Update

for Onsite Wastewater Treatment (Septic)
Systems in Monterey County

February 23, 2016
Monterey County Environmental Health Bureau
By John Ramirez and Nicki Fowler

Brief History

September 2000 – AB 885 requires statewide regulations for septic systems

June 2012 – SWRCB adopts the OWTS Policy

May 2013 – Central Coast RWQCB incorporates OWTS Policy into the Basin Plan, giving local jurisdictions 3 years to update their local regulations

Statewide OWTS Policy

Tier 0 – Existing systems

Tier 1 – Prescriptive standards that do not consider local geology

Tier 1 could become effective May 2018 if a LAMP is not submitted by May 13, 2016

Tier 2 – Local Agency Management Plan (LAMP) by Monterey County with area-specific standards

Tier 3 – Standards for areas with impaired water bodies (none designated in Monterey County)

Tier 4 – System failure and owner responsibility

General Plan 2010

- General Plan Policy PS-4.12 requires wastewater plans for:
- El Toro
- Prunedale
- Carmel Highlands
- Carmel Valley



Monterey County's LAMP will include a section on Special Areas of Concern to address each of these areas

Moving Forward

April 19, 2016 – Request authorization to submit proposed LAMP to RWQCB for consideration

Summer-Fall 2016 – EHB conducts environmental review of proposed LAMP and conducts Planning Commission Workshop

Spring 2017 – Recommend adoption of LAMP and corresponding environmental document and obtain authorization to submit LAMP to RWQCB for approval

Spring 2017 – Spring 2018 – EHB recommends ordinance changes to make MCC, Chapter 15.20, Sewage Disposal Ordinance, consistent with approved LAMP

May 13, 2018 – LAMP (or Tier 1) Standards become effective

Questions may be directed to Nicki Fowler at the Environmental Health Bureau

(831) 755-4584 or fowlerne@co.monterey.ca.us