

ALAMEDA COUNTY INDIVIDUAL/SMALL WATER SYSTEM REGULATIONS

Following are the regulations dealing with individual & small water supply systems in Alameda County. This is Section 50 excerpted from Alameda County Onsite Wastewater Treatment System & Individual/Small Water System Regulations (part of Chapter 15.18 of the Alameda County General Ordinance, adopted by Board of Supervisors under Ordinance 7-11, effective 4/26/07)

A. Running Water Required

Each plumbing fixture shall be provided with an adequate supply of potable running water piped thereto in an approved manner, so arranged as to flush and keep it in a clean and sanitary condition without danger of backflow or cross connection. Water closets shall be flushed by means of an approved tank or flushometer valve.

1. Such water supply shall be either

- a. a public water system conforming to the provisions of Division 103, Part 12, Chapter 4 Health and Safety Code of the State of California, or
- b. a local small water system, or
- c. an approved individual water supply.

2. Small Water System

A local small water system is defined as a water system which serves

- a. more than one but less than five service connections,
- b. less than twenty-five year long residents, and
- c. any number of non-resident individuals less than sixty days per year or less than twenty -five non-resident individuals greater than sixty days per year. All such water systems shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained in compliance with the requirements of the Department of Environmental Health as contained in their Small Water System Handbook.

B. Quality

All water systems shall meet the primary Drinking Water Standards contained in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. California Code of Regulations shall be met by all water systems, subject to any current variances or other authorized exceptions. All examinations of water required by this Ordinance shall be performed by a laboratory approved by the California Department of Health Services.

C. Quantity

Sufficient water shall be available from the water source or sources and storage facilities to supply adequately, dependable, and safely the total requirements of all users under maximum daily demand conditions. Total requirements for a water system shall be determined from the total source capacity, total storage volume, and total number of service connections. The procedures for determining source quantity shall be in accordance with the specifications contained in Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 16, Article 2 of the California Code of Regulations.

D. Individual Water System Quality and Quantity

1. Quality

a. Bacteriological

The water from an individual system, installed for domestic use, shall be examined by the Department of Environmental Health on completion of the system. The water tested shall be bacteriologically acceptable for domestic use.

- b. Chemical
An analysis for specific organic or inorganic chemical constituents which may be present and which are considered by the Department of Environmental Health to be a risk to human health.
 - c. Physical
Tests for odor, color, turbidity, pH, or other physical properties of the water may be required when there is evidence the water may not be acceptable, potable, or palatable for human consumption.
2. Quantity - Source
- a. Wells
The well or wells shall provide as their total capacity a continuous flow of five (5) gallons per minute to the potable water piping system of the structure. In the event that the well or wells will not produce the required five (5) gallons per minute, the Department may consider a continuous flow of three (3) gallons per minute and a one thousand two hundred (1200) gallon storage tank to be acceptable. The Department of Environmental Health may require a sustained yield pump test or historical records acceptable to the Department of the well or wells documenting their capacity. Sustained yield tests when required shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures described in Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 16, Article 2, Section 64563, of the California Code of Regulations.
 - b. Other Sources
These sources, included but not limited to streams, springs, infiltration galleries, etc., shall provide a sustained yield of at least one (1) gallon per minute in conjunction with a catchment basin or storage of at least three thousand (3000) gallons. Other yields and required storage shall meet the same minimum requirements as for wells. Adequate documentation acceptable to the Department of Environmental Health shall be submitted certifying the sources to be perennial.
 - c. Building Permit
When it has been demonstrated that a water source exists that does not comply with this Chapter and that such failure to meet the requirements of the Department of Environmental Health is as danger or is likely to cause a hazard to human health, the Division may request the Building Official to withhold the issuance of a requested building permit or any certification for a structure.

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