

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SCEPTIC TANK**  
**MORATORIUM AREAS**

1964-PABLO SANITARY DISTRICT BOUNDARY

1968-MUIR OAKS – VINE HILL WAY AREA

1969-CANYON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT AREA

1970-LAKE ORINDA HIGHLANDS, ORINDA VILLA PARK,  
EL TOYONAL AREA

1974-SANITATION DISTRICT 15 – BETHEL ISLAND AREA

1977-RODEO CREEK WATERSHED DRAINAGE AREA

1992-RODEO CREEK WATERSHED DRAINAGE AREA-AMENDED  
1000' ON BOTH SIDES OF HWY 4 ARE INCLUDED IN  
MORATORIUM AND FRANKLIN CANYON RD.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Contra Costa County  
P.O. Box 871, Martinez

TO: Sanitation Division, Richmond Office

Date: September 21, 1964

FROM: Dr. Kent, Chief Assistant  
Health Officer

Subject: Ban on Applications for Priv  
Sewage Disposal Systems Within The  
Ultimate Service Area of the San Pablo  
Sanitary District

No further applications for individual sewage disposal systems will be accepted in this area until further notice.

Poor soil conditions, numerous failures, poor percolation and costly repairs of existing sewage systems; inability of numerous unimproved properties to meet the minimum regulations for individual sewage system installations (slopes, etc.), in addition to inadequate water systems and supply in some areas has forced this decision.

The attached map delineates the area of the ban.

GWK:EJW:blh

cc: Thomas McMorrow, Director of Sanitation  
Frank Angelo, Supervising Sanitarian  
Paul Soltow, Engineer Mgr., San Pablo Sanitary District

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Contra Costa County

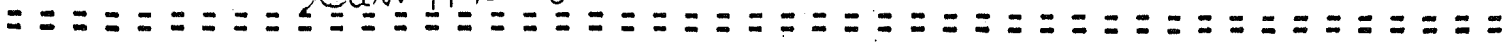
TO: Board of Supervisors  
Contra Costa County

DATE: October 10, 1968

FROM: Glen W. Kent, M.D.  
Acting Health Officer

SUBJECT: MORATORIUM on Septic Tank  
Installations  
(Muir Oaks - Vine Hill Way Area)

*Glen W. Kent M.D.*



Effective this date no further applications for Individual Sewage Investigations in the Muir Oaks - Vine Hill Way area will be accepted by the Health Department until further notice.

The boundaries of this area are delineated on a map on file in the Martinez office of the Health Department. The area in general is bounded on the north by the California Riding Trail, on the east by the California Riding Trail, on the south by a line 1500 feet south of Vine Hill Way and on the west by Pleasant Hill Road and Pleasant Hill Road East.

As the Acting Health Officer of Contra Costa County I can no longer willingly participate in the continuation of septic tank installations where experiences have demonstrated that such installations lead only to the creation of public nuisances and private and public property damage.

Many years of septic tank installation investigations in this area have revealed a consistent prevalence of heavy tight clay soils, ledge rock, adverse contours and slopes which preclude such installations. A number of those installations which were attempted have failed resulting in the flow of sewage to the surface of the ground. Repairs and extensions of these systems has not resulted in permanent corrections.

GWK:TMCM:kb

RECEIVED  
OCT 17 1968

COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.  
SANITATION DIVISION

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Contra Costa County

TO: Board of Supervisors  
Contra Costa County

DATE: July 1, 1969

FROM: Glen W. Kent, M.D.  
Acting Health Officer

SUBJECT: Moratorium on Septic Tank  
Installations (Proposed  
Canyon Community Services  
District Area)

*Glen W. Kent M.D.*

Effective this date no further applications for individual sewage investigations within the boundaries of the proposed Canyon Community Services District area will be accepted by the Health Department until further notice.

The boundaries of this area are delineated on a map on file in the Martinez office of the Health Department. The area in general is bounded on the North by the boundaries of the Moraga Redwood Heights subdivision, on the West by the Sacramento Northern Right of Way, on the East by the western boundary of property owned by McKosker.

As the Acting Health Officer of Contra Costa County I can no longer willingly participate in the continuation of septic tank installations where a threat to a drinking water supply storage reservoir is apparent. A number of individual septic tank installations in the past have failed and attempts to repair such systems have provided only interim solutions. Further repairs and extensions of these systems cannot result in a permanent solution.

GWK:TMG:ss

RECEIVED  
JUL 29 1976

COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.  
DIV. ENV. HEALTH  
RICHMOND AREA OFFICE

Board of Supervisors  
Contra Costa County

July 31, 1970

Glen W. Kent, M. D.  
Health Officer

MORATORIUM on Septic Tank  
Installations (Lake Orinda  
Highlands, Orinda Villa  
Park, El Toyonal Area Orinda)

Effective this date no further applications for Individual Sewage Investigations in the Lake Orinda Highlands and Orinda Villa Park Area will be accepted by the Health Department until further notice.

The boundaries of this area are delineated on a map on file in the Martinez office of the Health Department. The area in general is bounded by East Bay Municipal Utility District watershed on the North, on the East by El Toyonal and Canon Drive, on the South by East Bay Municipal Utility District property, on the West by lands belonging to the East Bay Regional Park.

As the Health Officer of Contra Costa County I can no longer willingly participate in the continuation of septic tank installations where experiences have demonstrated that such installations lead only to the creation of public nuisances and private and public property damage.

Many years of septic tank installation investigations in this area have revealed a consistent prevalence of water saturated, heavy tight clay soils, adverse contours and slopes which preclude such installations. A number of those installations which were attempted have failed resulting in the flow of sewage to the surface of the ground. Repairs and extensions of these systems has not resulted in permanent corrections.

GWK:TMG:bl

cc: County Building Department  
County Counsel  
Public Works Department  
County Administrator  
County Assessor's Office  
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District  
Pleasant Hill Office  
Richmond Office

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Contra Costa County

TO: Chief Clerk  
Board of Supervisors

DATE: January 3, 1974

FROM: Glen W. Kent, M.D.  
Health Officer

SUBJECT: S.T. Prohibition  
Sanitation District 15  
Bethel Island Area

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The State of California, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, by Resolution 74-125 dated 12-14-73 adopted discharge prohibitions applicable to Contra Costa County Sanitation District 15. These prohibitions prohibit the discharge of wastes from leaching or percolation systems installed after January 1, 1974. Therefore, effective 1-1-74, the Contra Costa County Health Department will not accept applications for, or issue permits for, individual sewage disposal systems designed to utilize subsurface means of sewage disposal. Additionally all individual sewage disposal system permits issued prior to January 1, 1974 are revoked except for those systems where construction of the sewage system or above ground house or other structure was commenced prior to January 1, 1974. Any person requesting an exemption to this order is directed to contact:

Mr. Paul Jepperson  
State of California  
Calif. Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Valley Region  
3201 S Street  
Sacramento, California 95816

GWK:JB:lc

Attachment - San. District 15 Map

cc: Mr. E.A. Linscheid, Supervisor, District #5  
Mr. A.A. Dehaesus, Director of Planning  
Mr. R.J. Kraintz, Building Inspector  
Mr. L.J. McCleary, Oakley Building Inspection  
Mr. E.F. Wanaka, Assessor  
Mr. V.W. Sauer, Director Public Works  
Martinez Environmental Health  
Mr. Robert W. Jornlin, Human Resources

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Contra Costa County

TO: Honorable Warren N. Boggess, Chairman      DATE: February 15, 1977  
and Members of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Orlyn H. Wood, M.D.  
Health Officer

*Orlyn H. Wood, M.D.*

SUBJECT: MORATORIUM - Prohibition  
of Application for Private Sewage  
Disposal Systems within the Rodeo  
Creek Watershed Drainage Area

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As the Health Officer of Contra Costa County, I can no longer willingly participate in the continuation of septic tank installations where experiences have demonstrated that such installations lead only to the creation of public nuisances and private and public property damage.

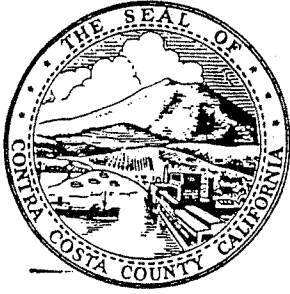
Impervious soil conditions, individual system failure resulting in costly repairs to existing sewage systems, and inability of numerous unimproved properties to meet the regulations for individual sewage system installations (slopes, depth, etc.), have brought about this decision.

Therefore, effective this date, no further applications for individual sewage disposal systems will be accepted by the Health Department for those properties located within the boundaries of the moratorium, as delineated on the attached map, and which is on file in the Martinez office of the Health Department.

OHW:WH:mw

Attachment

- cc: County Planning Department
- County Building Department
- County Counsel
- Public Works Department
- County Administrator
- County Assessor's Office
- Rodeo Sanitary District
- Pleasant Hill - Env. Health
- Martinez - Env. Health
- Richmond - Env. Health



Contra Costa County  
Health Services Department

William B. Walker, M.D.  
Medical Director and  
County Health Officer

Walker

copy

DATE: December 11, 1992  
TO: Environmental Health Staff  
FROM: William B. Walker, M.D.  
Health Officer  
SUBJECT: Rodeo Watershed Moratorium

*William B. Walker M.D.*

The above referenced moratorium area has been reviewed. Based on recommendations from Environmental Health, the moratorium is hereby modified pursuant to the following conditions:

1. Moratorium remains unchanged for the area 1,000 feet on either side of the Highway 4 corridor.
2. Each proposal will be evaluated on a parcel by parcel basis and must completely adhere to current County sewage code and regulations.
3. Thorough soil evaluation shall be conducted on each parcel including soil profile analyses, seasonal high water table determination and percolation testing.

Within the unchanged area (1,000 feet on either side of Highway 4 corridor) applications for new septic systems and increases in projected waste water flow will not be accepted.

WW/GN:slt



HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
Contra Costa County

TO: Environmental Health Staff

DATE: May 1, 1978

FROM: T.M. GARDNER, P.H.E. *T.M. Gardner*  
Director of Environmental Health

SUBJ: POLICY: Construction Guidelines in Septic Tank Moratorium Areas.

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In large areas of Contra Costa County, soil conditions exclude practical use of individual sewage disposal systems (septic tanks and leach fields). Construction of houses utilizing septic tanks for sewage disposal has been allowed in most areas of the County, including the areas with poor soil percolation. Building in the areas with unsatisfactory or marginal soils has resulted in costly, difficult repairs, and subsequent connection to the sanitary sewer when the septic tank systems fail.

Because of these experiences where poor soil conditions exist for septic tank installation, the Health Officer has established a septic tank moratorium in specified areas. Attached is a map of all the moratorium areas within the County.

The building restrictions pertaining to the septic tank installation in moratorium areas are:

A. Restrictions on new construction.

1. The Health Officer will not accept applications for a septic tank permit in the moratorium areas. Connection to a sanitary sewer must be accomplished.

B. Restrictions on existing systems installed prior to the establishment of the moratorium.

1. House additions that potentially or actually increase the number of residents in a household will not be allowed. This includes bedroom additions or additions that can be converted to bedrooms.
2. Permits to retrofit plumbing must first be approved by the Health Department.
3. Swimming pool installation will not be allowed in a moratorium area unless an adequate filter backwash water reclamation system is installed so that no discharge of water is done.

Filtering systems requiring wastewater to be discharged to an underground system will not be allowed.

4. Variances or land use permits that potentially affect sewage load, septic tank, drain field, or expansion area that has been set aside for emergency should the system fail, must first have Health Department approval.
5. Subdivisions will not be allowed without connection to the sanitary sewer.
6. Repair of failing systems will not be allowed when the sanitary sewer is available as defined by the County Ordinance Code.

TMG:11

Attachment

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MAY 19 1978  
CONCORD  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH