

**Office of the County Executive**

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## County of Sacramento

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### IN-PLACE SEPTIC TANK ABANDONMENT/DESTRUCTION PROCEDURE

The following procedure is to be followed when unused septic tanks are destroyed in-place according to Section 722 of the Uniform Plumbing Code:

1. A "Septic Tank Destruction Permit" must be obtained, and a fee paid to the Environmental Compliance Division at:

11080 White Rock Rd, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95655  
(916) 875-8400

Permit application and fee information are available on the Liquid Waste Program webpage:  
<https://emd.saccounty.gov/EC/Pages/LWSeptic.aspx>

2. Every cesspool or septic tank which has been abandoned or has been discontinued otherwise from further use or to which no waste or soil pipe from a plumbing fixture is connected, shall have the sewage removed, a hole that punctures the bottom of the tank, and be completely filled with sand, gravel, concrete or other approved fill material. The pumping must be done by a firm possessing a valid registration issued by the Environmental Compliance Division.
3. The cover over the cesspool or septic tank shall be removed and a photograph taken before filling. The filling shall not extend above the top of the vertical portions of the sidewalls or above the level of any outlet pipe until a second photograph has been taken. After the photograph has been taken, the cesspool or septic tank shall be filled to the level of the ground.
4. Submit a copy of the pumping receipt, as well as before and after photographs to [septicinfo@saccounty.net](mailto:septicinfo@saccounty.net). Once the proper documentation has been received, the permit will be finalized and a copy returned to the applicant.

### PLEASE NOTE

If the proper protocol is not followed and any additional work is required by EMD, the applicant/property owner will be charged an hourly rate for services.

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