

# Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

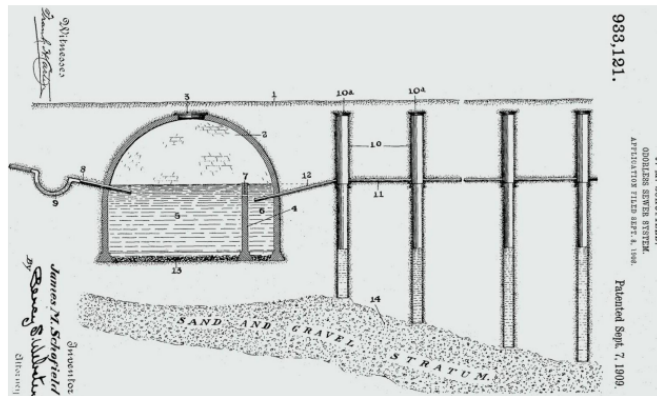
- State regulatory agency
- Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Issue permits for wastewater disposal
- Regulation of discharges of wastewater range in size
  - Individual septic systems
  - Community wastewater treatment systems
  - Large wastewater treatment facilities

# Impacts to Water Quality in Los Olivos from Septic Systems

- **1974** – Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors designates Los Olivos a Special Problem Area for Septic Systems
- **1977-1980** – Elevated concentrations of nitrate in shallow drinking water wells in Los Olivos downtown area.
- **1989** – Central Coast Water Board identifies Los Olivos identified as an area needing better wastewater management
- **2003** – Santa Barbara County's Septic System Survey identifies Los Olivos area of high risk for pollution from septic systems

# Regulation of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

- State Water Board Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Policy
- Local Agency Management Program (LAMP)



## OWTS POLICY

WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY FOR  
SITING, DESIGN, OPERATION, AND  
MAINTENANCE OF ONSITE WASTEWATER  
TREATMENT SYSTEMS

April 17, 2018

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

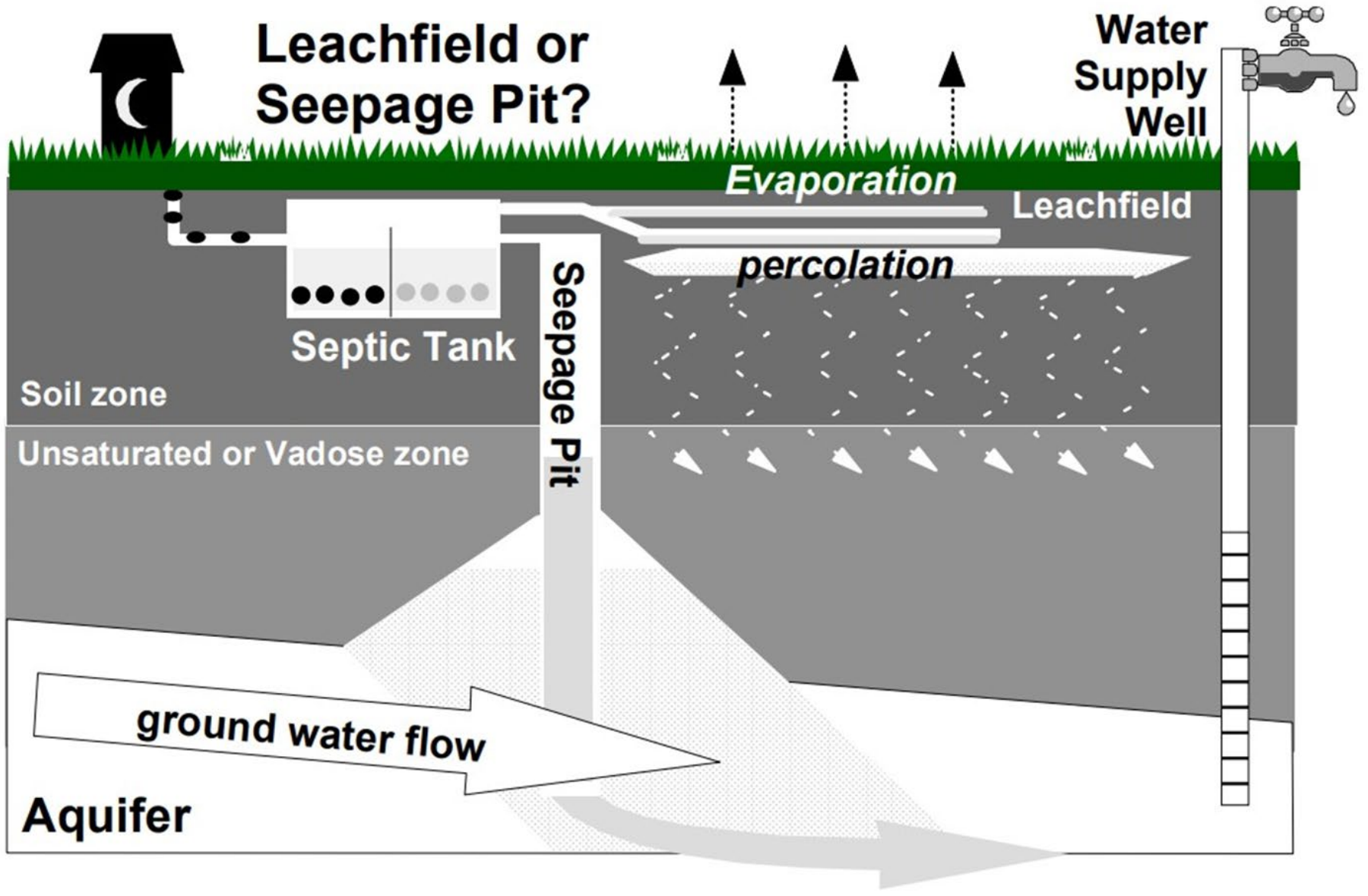
Santa Barbara County Public Health Department  
Environmental Health Services

## Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

Local Agency Management Program

Lawrence Fay, Director

Revision 1: 07/21/15



# Impacts and Risks from Septic Systems in Los Olivos

- High density of systems on small lot sizes
- Unfavorable soil conditions for disposal of wastewater
- Shallow groundwater
- Age and condition of septic systems
- Proximity to surface water
- Recent groundwater sample exceeds safe drinking water standard for nitrate.

# Solutions and Opportunities

- Sewer collection system and community wastewater reclamation system
  - Reduce nitrate pollution and protect drinking water supplies
  - Treat wastewater and recycle to replenish drinking water supply
  - Federal and state funding to support project
  - Keep local control over wastewater services
  - Avoid major costs associated with required upgrades and maintenance costs for individual septic systems

# Be A Drought Resilient Community

- Long-term water quality protection
- Protect drinking water supplies
- Beneficially reuse treated wastewater
- Maintain local control of your wastewater services