



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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WINTER WATER TABLE TESTING PERIOD OPENS

Santa Cruz County Environmental Health has opened the Winter Water Table Testing Period for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) from Tuesday, December 29, 2021 through Monday, January 24, 2022.

If you are considering developing a property, doing a major remodel or a repair on property served by an OWTS that may be subject to high ground water levels, you should arrange to have groundwater on your property observed multiple times throughout this testing period. The length of the Winter Water Testing period may be extended with continued rainfall.

Piezometer readings are required at the beginning, middle, and end of the testing period. Also, guidelines state that the piezometers must be in the ground and the site plan approved prior to the opening of the season. In anticipation, applicants should have a Site Evaluation application in place and a monitoring plan approved by Environmental Health Land Use staff.

The testing period will end on Monday, January 24, 2022 unless sufficient rainfall occurs during this period for it to be extended. If the testing period closes, it may be reopened with sufficient rainfall. Groundwater levels must be measured throughout this period. A minimum of three recorded readings are required.

For parcels with an active Site Evaluation application, contact your Environmental Health Land Use District Inspector to schedule readings at LandUse@santacruzcounty.us.