



County of Santa Cruz



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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Press Release

For Immediate Release
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The Winter Water Table Testing Period (WWTTP) is Now Open

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY – The Winter Water Table Testing Period (WWTTP) for Santa Cruz County Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) is officially open, running from Friday, February 14, 2025, through Thursday, March 13, 2025. This period is crucial for property owners considering development on previously undeveloped land, major remodels, or repairs on properties served by an OWTS that may be susceptible to high groundwater levels. The length of the WWTT period may be extended with continued rainfall.

“Determining groundwater levels is a critical constraining factor when designing an OWTS that meets current code standards,” said Heather Reynolds, Environmental Health program manager. “We encourage residents to act now and participate in the Winter Water Table Testing Period to ensure the safety and compliance of their property.”

Property owners are strongly encouraged to arrange for multiple groundwater observations on their property during this testing period. Applications can still be submitted until February 21, 2025 for the current WWTTP.

Piezometer readings, required at the beginning, middle, and end of the testing period, must be conducted by a Qualified Professional who must submit the Site Evaluation application with a monitoring plan that is approved by Environmental Health Land Use staff.

To assist property owners in this process, an updated list of Qualified Professionals can be found on the Environmental Health website at sceh.org.

Parcels with an active Winter Water Testing Site Evaluation application are encouraged to contact their Environmental Health Land Use District Inspector at Landuse@santacruzcountyca.gov to schedule readings.

For any inquiries or further information, please reach out to Landuse@santacruzcountyca.gov.

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