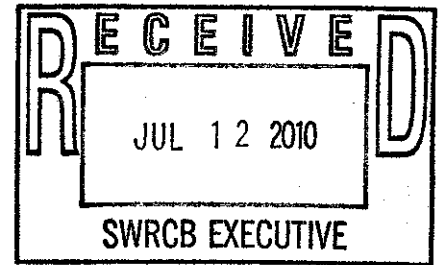


COMMENT LETTER –MALIBU SEPTIC PROHIBITION

July 11, 2010

commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Dear: State of California Water Resources Control Board
Charles R. Hoppin, Chairman
Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board, and
Members



Please **DO NOT** approve the LARWQCB's Resolution and Prohibition.

Please "Remand" the Resolution and Prohibition back to the LARWQCB with instructions to work with the City of Malibu in a cooperative effort to result in a feasible solution which is attainable.

I have been a resident of Malibu for 14 years.

I am a Realtor and a member of the Malibu Board of Realtors.

I have helped with the local City of Malibu septic ordinance 321 that was enacted several years ago as one of the many actions done to improve water quality. (Following the body of this request is "Septic Suggestions" which I helped construct with city departments and local contractors to help homeowners, and which is posted on the Malibu Board of Realtors site, and has appeared in the local newspaper).

In the interest of clean water, other accomplishments our community has done include:

The constructed runoff treatment building by Civic Center and Cross Creek, completed.

The Paradise Cove water improvement facility, recently completed.

Legacy Park, an approximate \$50,000,000 city core project, which as a major component of its design includes a storm water runoff basin, estimated completion 2010 Fall.

The Malibu area reduced water consumption approximately 18% last year.

Less water consumed, less discharged into the ground.

Much is going on in Malibu to work with the City's plan which has widespread community support and will lead to a successful water quality protection plan with solutions which are achievable.

In contrast to this progress is the overhanging devastating uncertainty of the "Resolution".

The uncertainty of a "Prohibition", lack of clarity, lack of timely feasible solution, property owner's fears and concerns of their property's salability and value, legal repercussions, and actual property negative value impact, are collectively very unfair and economically devastating.

The real estate market is still in a very precarious state. Overhanging uncertainty relating to "Resolution" is detrimental to our Realtor members, associates, residents, visitors, and economy. Improving water quality is a positive for real estate values and stability in this challenging market

A conceptual plan, delays, and a lack of an actual implementable result, such as the 30 year unresolved situation in Los Osos, is detrimental to all those that are for clean water.

Please "Remand" the Resolution and Prohibition back to the LARWQCB with instructions to work with the City of Malibu and its citizens in completing the solution process currently underway.

Respectfully,

Meril May

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cc: Governor Schwarzenegger, Assembly member Julia Brownley, State Senate member Fran Pavley

Help your Septic System with these SIMPLE suggestions.

In Malibu, many homes use septic systems to dispose of wastewater. Wastewater can include water from sinks, showers, washers, and toilets.

- 1) Try to reduce the amount of water you use. This will reduce the amount the system has to treat, the ground has to absorb, and you have to pay for.
- 2) DO NOT put OILS, GREASE, or FATS down the drain! These are VERY BAD for your septic system's life and efficiency. Minimize using the garbage disposal, and use the trash can instead.
- 3) DO NOT put PAINTS, ANTIFREEZE, or PESTICIDES down the drain.
- 4) DO NOT put BABY WIPES, SANITARY NAPKINS, CIGARETTES, DISPOSABLE DIAPERS, or other inorganic items down the drain or toilet
- 5) Fix toilets which may be "running" or leaking water through the bowl. Running toilets are one of the largest wasters of water and put a strain on your septic system. This also applies to leaking faucets.
- 6) Use septic friendly detergent, preferably a liquid. Sometimes powders are not as easy to process.
- 7) BLEACH is NOT good for the system. There are bacteria in your system that are working hard to break down all you flush into it. Other products which can kill the "good" bacteria resulting in a less efficient system include some antibacterial products, liquid drain cleaners, and those flush toilet bowl cleaners which contain bleach.
- 8) Have your system maintained. Simple, routine maintenance can extend the life of the system and prevent costly problems.
 - A) Do you know where the system and components are?
 - B) When was the last time an inspection was performed to check the operation?Just because you do not see the system does not mean it doesn't need special care. Space out the volume of water you put in the system. A slower flow is easier for the system than if all water uses are in action at the same time. The bacteria have time to work rather than being deluged all at once.
- 9) The City of Malibu's web site is www.ci.malibu.ca.us. City Departments, Environmental and Community Development, Environmental and Building Safety Division, Wastewater Management (Septic Systems), have additional information for your use online. In addition, the Environmental Health Office can be contacted at 310.456.2489.

There are a variety of septic, and/or Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS), some are very basic in concept and some are much more technologically advanced. Should you have any concerns or questions, please check with a qualified service professional or the City of Malibu. Septic tips and/or brochures are available upon request at the City of Malibu. Additional information can also be found at: www.maliburealtors.org.

The Malibu Association of REALTORS® has provided these helpful hints to improve your home and our community. The above is provided only as basic information and not guaranteed for all systems.