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**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

Site Evaluator Selection

Helpful Questions & Tips for Property Owners

Selecting a site evaluator to design your septic system is an important business decision. In order to assist you in selecting a site evaluator, Environmental Health has compiled a list of several questions for you to ask prospective site evaluators and tips to guide you. If you have questions about the septic permit process, please contact one of our Environmental Health Specialists.

- Read the Site Evaluators List before shopping for a site evaluator. Talk to your prospective Site Evaluator to clarify questions you may have about the testing and design process.
- Ask people you know for the name(s) of a site evaluator(s) with whom they were satisfied and why.
- Ask your realtor or general contractor. They may be able to provide you with names of site evaluators who have designed septic systems to his/her satisfaction.
- Ask your prospective site evaluator about his/her experience testing and designing septic systems. The site evaluator's knowledge and expertise is important, especially if your property is in an area of poor soil and the septic system is likely to be a non-standard or innovative system.
- Did the Site Evaluator ask you seemingly appropriate questions about your project?
- Ask the site evaluator when the soil testing will begin, when the design will be completed and at what cost. The Site Evaluation Report should be completed in a time frame and cost to your satisfaction.
- Contact the Better Business Bureau and the California Dept. of Consumer Affairs for additional useful information on selecting site evaluators. You will need the site evaluator's license number for the License Board if checking for current license.
- Lastly, think of all the questions you may want to ask before contacting a site evaluator. Write down your questions. Compare the different site evaluators' answers to your questions and then make your selection.

Better Business Bureau: Phone: 510-238-1018

Web site: <http://www.oakland.bbb.org>

Certified Professional Soil Scientist Public Registry: Phone: 608-273-8080

Web site: http://www.soils.org/certification/cpss_search.html

Board of Registration for Environmental Health Specialists: Phone: 916-449-5663

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/environmental/rehs/default.htm>

Board of Registration for Civil Engineers & Geologists : Phone: 1-800-952-5210

Web site: <http://www.dca.ca.gov/>