



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

# NAPA COUNTY WINERY WASTEWATER REGULATORY PROGRAM

Napa County Planning, Building and  
Environmental Services –  
Environmental Health Division

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# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Regulating winery waste water discharges in Napa County since the 1970's
- 484 approximate total number of wineries
- 212 facilities total in existing winery wastewater regulatory program
  - Includes process (waste) water ponds, advanced treatment systems with surface discharge, and subsurface disposal (conventional leach field, with alternative/advanced treatment, process waste only and comingled waste)
  - It's estimated that 400-450 wineries will be required to enroll for coverage under the Winery General Order



# Components



MINIMUM  
DESIGN  
STANDARDS



TECHNICAL  
GUIDELINES



ENTITLEMENT  
REVIEWS



CONSTRUCTION  
AND INSTALLATION  
INSPECTIONS



ONGOING  
INSPECTIONS/  
COMPLAINTS



MONITORING  
AND  
REPORTING

# Authority

- Letter from SF Regional Water Board authorizing Napa County to permit subsurface disposal from small wineries dated August 9, 1979
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Napa County Board of Supervisors and SF Regional Water Board established in 1982 and updated in 1985
- September 2003 authorization obtained from SF Regional Water Board to permit advanced treatment of winery waste with storage in tanks and surface discharge
- Interim agreement/“MOU” currently being written giving Napa County continued authority to run program as wineries transition to coverage under the General Order.



# LOCAL AGENCY OVERSIGHT PROGRAM

- Winery General Order includes an administrative procedure to approve local agency oversight for implementing the Order.
  - Napa County would be expected to enforce the General Order as written and in compliance with an implementation plan (in process). *Our existing winery regulatory program will no longer exist.*
  - The scope of the local agency program will be determined collaboratively by Napa County and the Regional Board with input from stakeholders.
  - The State has approved a 50% fee reduction for wineries regulated by a local agency program.
- SF Regional Water Board Staff are writing an implementation plan with input from Napa County and our stakeholders.
  - Implementation plan ensures consistency throughout region, it will help establish phasing by tier or type of system. Establishes the foundation of the program and will set expectations.
  - The State Water Board has made a determination that any winery currently permitted through our local program is considered to have regulatory coverage so the priority will be placed on enrolling facilities without any type of coverage. This determination will give our locally permitted facilities more time to enroll under the General Order.

- Why are we considering applying to be a local agency?
  - Local agency is able to support and respond better and more timely
  - Support from SF Regional Water Board Staff. They don't have the people needed to do the work as effectively. We already have a team doing the work.
  - We want to partner with Napa County's wine industry to continue to be a leader in responsible management of process water.
  - From feedback we've received to date - stakeholders want the program to stay local



## STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

- Stakeholder input/questions will be shared with Regional Board staff for inclusion in implementation plan
- Stakeholder meeting(s) will be scheduled once the draft implementation plan is ready
  - The implementation plan will be used region wide whether Napa County is the local agency or not



## NEXT STEPS

- Continue working on implementation plan with Regional Water Board Staff with input from stakeholders
  - Use plan to outline scope of potential Local Agency Oversight Program
- Identify necessary updates to program for consistency with Winery Order
  - Determine local program staffing needs based on implementation plan; establish local fees; update technical documents and codes
- Solicit stakeholder input
- Present to Board of Supervisors for review and approval of code changes, technical standards and to apply to be a local agency
- If stakeholders and Board agree, submit application to become a local agency
- Begin outreach to permitted facilities



## CONTACT US

We want to hear your questions/concerns for inclusion/clarification in the implementation plan. Email questions/concerns to:

- Kim Withrow, [Kim.Withrow@countyofnapa.org](mailto:Kim.Withrow@countyofnapa.org) or 707-251-1075, or
- Armeda Simpson-Van Dam, [Armeda.Vandam@countyofnapa.org](mailto:Armeda.Vandam@countyofnapa.org) or 707-259-8301