



STEEP SLOPE SEPTIC VARIANCE INSTRUCTIONS

The following is required to review a Steep Slope Septic Variance to install Septic System in areas with slopes greater than thirty (30) percent.

1. Completed Variance Application and Fees.

2. Soil Stability Report: The Department will require a geological or geotechnical report by a registered Civil Engineer or Certified Engineering Geologist (with background in soil mechanics) where the slope exceeds - 30%, or where there are indications of soil instability. The report shall discuss soil stability within the proposed disposal area and replacement area of the system and on the soil stability with respect to the building foundation, surrounding terrain and adjacent properties. The report shall meet requirements in Section T-064 of the [Local Area Management Plan \(LAMP\)](#) and include, at a minimum:

- a. A site plan drawn to scale, showing topography, locations of the proposed house, driveway or other structures.
- b. Soil profile information as it relates to soil stability.
- c. Discussion of the presence of groundwater, its seasonal variation (if any) and influence on the soil stability after disposal field construction.
- d. Statement concerning the stability of the soil and bedrock that may specifically include an evaluation of soil creep and landslide potential at the disposal area and replacement area location and surrounding terrain.
- e. Recommendation for interceptor drains (if needed) that may render soil stable and prevent flooding of the disposal area and replacement area.
- f. Recommendation of the best structure-driveway-disposal field location relationship as it relates to soil stability.
- g. Recommendation of installation methods and procedures.
- h. Septic Design must match this Soil Stability Report.

3. Erosion and Sediment Control Plan: prepared by a licensed geotechnical or civil engineer, engineering geologist, or certified soil erosion control specialist. The Plan shall comply with the erosion control standards of LUDC Chapter V: Buildings, Article 3: Uniform Building Code Amendments. The report shall meet the requirements in [Section L-II 4.3.13 of the Nevada County Land Use and Development Code](#), and include, at a minimum:

- a. The structural control of flowing water and vegetative measures necessary to stabilize the soil surface.
- b. If the entire site is within a high erosion area, the Plan shall provide for the development of the project on the least sensitive portion of the site.
- c. Where seeding is deemed necessary in order to stabilize the soil surface, only native seed mixes shall be used. Where native seed mixtures are not available, then non-seed measures such as straw wattles, chips, erosion control blankets and weed-free straw shall be used.
- d. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan will be reviewed by the Nevada County Building Department.

Additional documents may be requested to complete the review if necessary.