



# Septic System FAQ for Caldor Fire Properties

El Dorado County Environmental Management Department

## Can I use my existing septic system?

Yes, after it has been evaluated. All septic systems that were serving a structure that was burned or damaged must be inspected by a certified wastewater specialist, whether a septic pumper, designer, installer or qualified service provider using the "Caldor Fire Septic System Inspection Report". This certified wastewater specialist must be hired by the owner and the inspection must occur after Phase II debris removal is completed. A building division permit cannot be issued until the septic system inspection report is submitted. A septic system is required to be inspected if it is to be used for temporary housing allowed under the county urgency ordinance.

This inspection report form can be found on our website here:

[https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/wildfire\\_recovery](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/wildfire_recovery)

## What if my septic system is damaged or needs to be replaced?

Damaged septic systems can be repaired through a septic system repair permit issued by the El Dorado County Environmental Management Department. A septic system designer will evaluate the damaged septic system and create a new septic system design to submit to our Department for review. A current list of septic system designers can be found on our website here:

[https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/environmentalhealth/pages/percolation\\_testers\\_and\\_sewage\\_disposal\\_designers.aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/environmentalhealth/pages/percolation_testers_and_sewage_disposal_designers.aspx)

Please note that septic system repairs expanding the septic system capacity beyond the original number of bedrooms will need to be submitted with a building permit.

## What if I would like to build a larger or smaller structure than the one that was destroyed?

If the structure will have the same or fewer number of bedrooms as the original structure, it can connect to the existing septic system without changes to it. If the structure will have more bedrooms, the septic system may need to be expanded as part of the building permit to accommodate them.

## How will permitting fees work for parcel owners who have or do not have insurance?

Environmental Management Department fees may be eligible to be waived to lessen the burden for Caldor Fire Survivors during the rebuilding process. Projects with permit fees determined to be eligible for waiver by Building Department will also be eligible for waiver by the Environmental Management Department.