

PINTO LAKE NEIGHBORS

The Amesti Neighborhood of Pinto Lake uses septic systems for waste water disposal. When not working properly, a septic system can cause contamination of surface and groundwater.

1. Prevent a failing system:

- Know the location of your septic tank and leachfield. Direct roof drains away from area.
- Have your septic tank pumped every 5-10 years.
- Don't drive, park or build on any part of your system. Compacting soil can cause damage.
- Reduce amount of water flowing to your tank through water conservation and leak detection.
- Regularly check the level in the risers; if it's high, cut back on water use.
- Never dispose of hazardous or non-biodegradable waste in sinks or toilets.
- Avoid the use of garbage disposals and never put grease down the sink.

2. Signs of a failing system include:

- Sewage surfacing over the tank or leachfield (especially after storms).
- Slow draining toilets or drains.
- Lush green growth over the leachfield.
- Sewage back-ups in the house.
- Frequent sewage odors.

3. Repair failures:

- Contact the Environmental Health Department for technical advice and permits.
- Use a licensed septic contractor.
- Repair leaky fixtures immediately and limit use until leaks are fixed.



**To report a failing
septic system, call:
Santa Cruz County
Environmental Health
at (831) 454-2022.**