

24

Sanitary Sewer Design Criteria

Bernalillo County does not follow *Chapter 24* of the *DPM*.

The primary documents for **wastewater design** in **Bernalillo County** are **Chapter 42 Division 10 Wastewater Systems** and **Chapter 74 Article 9 Wastewater Disposal Requirements** in the **Bernalillo County Code of Ordinances**. You may access **the Bernalillo County Code of Ordinances** at the following link:

www.municode.com/library

Most of **Bernalillo County** is **rural**. Sewage in **rural** areas is treated primarily with individual septic tanks and leach fields. Much of the **urban** area just outside of the *Albuquerque City Limits* is serviced by the **ABCWUA** sanitary sewer network.

1. ABCWUA SEWER CONNECTIONS

If your project is within 200 feet of an existing **ABCWUA** sewer line, you will be **required** to connect to the public sewer collection system. (See **Chapter 74, Article 9, Bernalillo County Code of Ordinances**.) Use *Chapter 24* of the *DPM* if you are designing sewer infrastructure that will tie to the **ABCWUA** network. You should also consult the **latest version** of the *Albuquerque Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction*.

You will need to obtain a **Sewer Availability Statement** from **ABCWUA** before receiving approval to connect. See **How to Obtain a Water and Sewer Availability Statement** in the back of this Chapter.

Contact **ABCWUA** at **(505) 924-3987** to determine if your project is within an **ABCWUA** service area.

Sewer plans are submitted to **BCPWD** and reviewed by **DR**. They are routed to **ABCWUA** for review and comment.

Pro Rata Charges: Pro-rata charges are defined as that portion of the installation cost for sanitary sewer and water lines constructed by third parties which is due from those who later connect to these lines. Unlike the *City of Albuquerque*, **Bernalillo County** is not involved in the pro-rata process. If you are building a project outside of the *City of Albuquerque* limits,

you must submit **Figure 8** and **Figure 21** found in **Chapter 5** of the **DPM** to the **ABCWUA** so the agency can establish pro-rata. Call **924-3988** for more information.

2. SEPTIC SYSTEMS

In general, if a lot is one acre or larger and you are more than 200 feet from the nearest **ABCWUA** sewer line, you may install a septic system. You must obtain a **Wastewater Permit** which is reviewed by the **Natural Resource Services Section** of **PWD**. Call (505) 314-0329 to discuss your plan with **Design Review** personnel.

If the project will be discharging **over 2000 gallons per day**, you will need to apply to the **NMED** for a **Liquid Waste Permit**.

For lots smaller than one acre, there are more expensive advanced wastewater treatment options available. Consult the **Bernalillo County Sanitary Sewer Service Assessment Guidelines** for more information about designing a septic system in **Bernalillo County**.

3. PRIVATELY OWNED WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Privately owned wastewater treatment facilities are to be designed, constructed and maintained per **Chapter 42, Division 10** and **Chapter 74, Article 9 of the Bernalillo County Code of Ordinances**. The ordinance can be found at the following internet link:

www.municode.com/library

Contact **Bernalillo County Natural Resource Services** at **505-314-0310** regarding the design, construction and maintenance of privately-owned wastewater treatment facilities. Consult the **Bernalillo County Sanitary Sewer Service Assessment Guidelines** for more information about designing a wastewater treatment system in **Bernalillo County**.