

County Background

In 2011-13, the Community Development Department worked with South County residents and stakeholders in an open and transparent process to develop and adopt *Newberry Country: A Plan for Southern Deschutes County*. The Plan specifically addresses groundwater protection and public health:

- *Goal 9, Partner with the DEQ to protect groundwater and public health.*
- *Policy 9.1, Explore opportunities for Goal II exceptions and the full range of advance wastewater treatment opportunities, including but not limited to, the use of onsite alternative treatment technology, centralized sewer systems and cluster systems.*

The County is now implementing this Plan with partner organizations Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), in an open and transparent process by initiating a Goal II exception. **Residents are encouraged to participate in this public process.**

Newberry Country Goal II Exception



FOR MORE INFORMATION

View the Goal II Exception at:
<http://www.deschutes.org/cd/goalII>

Contact: Robert Baggett, Oregon DEQ
(541) 633-2036
Baggett.Robert@deq.state.or.us

Contact: Peter Russell, Deschutes County
(541) 383-6718
Peter.Russell@deschutes.org



DEQ Background

The Oregon DEQ has been involved in South County public health protection for more than 40 years. In 2010, DEQ formed a Steering Committee of local residents in Southern Deschutes and Northern Klamath Counties to address groundwater contamination caused by septic systems. In June 2013, the Committee submitted nine recommendations to DEQ. One recommendation unanimously approved by the Committee is to:

- *Provide a Goal II exception for the at-risk areas in South Deschutes and North Klamath counties.*

The Committee's report states, "This Goal II exception would not mandate a system [sewer or cluster] be installed." An exception can allow wastewater treatment and disposal in the area to be designed and controlled at the most appropriate scale. DEQ is now implementing this committee recommendation collaboratively with Deschutes County and DLCD.

Notice of a Proposed Land Use Regulation

Newberry Country Goal II Exception

PLANNING COMMISSION

La Pine Public Hearing Date

DATE: Thursday, July 23, 2015

TIME: 2:00 and 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: La Pine Community Center
16405 First Street

Bend Public Hearing Date

DATE: Thursday, Aug. 13

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Deschutes Services Center
1300 NW Wall St.

Proposal

Amend Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan:

- Section 3.11, Newberry Country: A Plan for Southern Deschutes County

Policy Topics: Natural Environment, Groundwater Quality

Plan Goals and Policies, Public Facilities, Policy 9.1

- Section 5.10, Goal Exception Statements
- Section 5.12, Legislative History

PUBLIC HEARING LOCATIONS

The Planning Commission will hold three public hearings: two on July 23 in La Pine and one on August 13 in Bend.

The July 23 hearings will begin at 2:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Both will take place at the **La Pine Community Center, 16405 First Street, La Pine.**

The August 13 hearing will take place at 5:30 p.m. in the **Deschutes Services Building, 1300 NW Wall St., Bend.**

Notice is being mailed to landowners whose properties are recommended for the Goal II Exception. However, anyone may attend and provide comments in person or submit written signed comments.

Copies of the Goal II application have been placed at the libraries in Bend, La Pine and Sunriver, as well as at the Planning Division office in Bend, 117 NW Lafayette Ave.

The public hearing location is wheelchair accessible. For the deaf or hearing impaired, an interpreter or assisted listening system will be provided with 48 hours' notice. Materials in alternate formats may be made available with 48 hours' notice. For other assistance, please dial 7-1-1, State Relay Service.

Please call (541) 617-4747 for further information regarding alternative formats.

AMENDMENT

DEQ, DLCD, and Deschutes County are proposing an exception to Statewide Planning Goal II as an amendment to the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan. An exception is a necessary step to allow the option of sewers as a method to protect groundwater. Note: Community drinking water systems are permitted and do not require an exception to Goal II.

What it Does

- Gives property owners options (such as cluster or community sewer systems) to treat wastewater rather than being limited to individual onsite septic systems
- Enables, but does not require, the opportunity for residents to work together to discuss wastewater management systems and any needed administrative options

What it Does Not Do

- A Goal II Exception does **not** mandate sewer systems or require residents to install a certain type of system or be part of a sewer district or sanitary authority
- Does **not** prioritize sewer systems over other wastewater systems
- Does **not** allow residents to “up-zone” their land for more development or subdivide property into residential lots or parcels less than 10 acres.