Abandonment of Swimming Pools/Spas or Septic Tanks

A permit is required when abandoning a swimming pool/spa or septic tank, whether it will be left in place and filled in or removed completely. A compaction report prepared by a licensed soils engineer will not be required with this permit unless a future structure is proposed on the site. Please also be aware if the pool/spa or septic tank is abandoned in place, the property will be permanently recorded as having an abandoned structure. The abandoned pool/spa or septic tank may be required to be removed completely should a future structure be proposed on or near the abandoned pool/spa or septic tank. Please see the additional requirements below for each.

Swimming Pool/Spa:

Provide a site plan as shown in the example below.

A building permit may be issued over the counter once a building application is completed, (2) site plans are provided, and clearance from the City Engineering Services Division is obtained in regard to drainage/backfill. After the permit is issued, the work can commence.

Before filling in the pool/spa, a building inspector shall verify the bottom of the pool/spa is broken up to provide adequate drainage at the first inspection. A second and final inspection will be required to verify the pool/spa was filled in. When the permit is finaled, the inspector will sign the inspection card, which is the property owner’s record of the permit being final.
**Septic Tank:**

Provide a site plan as shown in the example below. If the exact location of the septic tank and seepage pit (or leech lines) is not known, show the approximate location on the site plan. The property owner or contractor shall provide an accurate site plan dimensioning the exact locations prior to permit final.

![Site Plan Diagram]

A building permit may be issued over the counter once a building application is completed, (2) site plans are provided, the certificate from Sanitation Districts of L.A. County is submitted, and clearance as well as an encroachment permit from the City Engineering Division is obtained. After the permit is issued, the work can commence.

During inspections, the building inspector will verify the following:
- The septic tank is pumped and the entire lid is removed
  - Provide the building inspector with the pumping company’s receipt
  - The entire lid may be broken down into a max. of 24 inch square pieces and left at the bottom of the tank
- The bottom of the septic tank is broken up to provide adequate drainage
- All the walls of the septic tank and seepage pit are cut down to at least 12 inches below the adjacent grade
- If leech lines present, that they are removed as much as possible
- The appropriate fill is placed in the septic tank and seepage pit
- The sewer lines from the dwelling to the septic tank are cut and capped off
- The new sewer line and required cleanouts are installed to code

When the permit is finaled, the inspector will sign the inspection card which is the property owner’s record of the permit being final.