

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



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**SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
GENERAL GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM #19  
PROCEDURES OF OFFICE OF WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
FOR CLASSIFYING BEDROOMS WITHIN DWELLINGS**

**AUTHORITY**

The Suffolk County Sanitary Code sets forth requirements for approval of water supply and sewage disposal systems. The statutory authority for these guidelines can be found in Article 5, Section 760-502 and Article 7 Section 760-705A. Detailed specifications can be found in Standards for Approval of Plans and Construction - Sewage Disposal Systems for Single-Family Residences. In addition, the Department is bound to comply with the standards set forth in the New York State Department of Health Appendix 75-A.

**PURPOSE**

The Standards for Approval of Plans and Construction - Sewage Disposal Systems for Single-Family Residences (Standards) presently do not define the term "bedroom". In addition, state design standards require that sanitary systems be designed to accommodate the rooms within a residence that will or can be used as bedrooms. This document provides guidance to be used by departmental staff to evaluate and classify proposed rooms as potential bedrooms for the purpose of sanitary system design.

**GUIDANCE**

When applications are made for the approval of construction for new residences, additions, or accessory apartments we shall count bedrooms as follows:

1. The following rooms will be considered as an integral part of the structure and will not add to the overall bedroom count for the house:
  - Kitchen
  - 1 - Living room
  - 1 - Dining room

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