

## ONSITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPLEMENTING BILL LANGUAGE AND THE WEKIVA BMAP

PREPARED FOR THE WEKIVA BASIN WORKING GROUP MEETING  
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During the recent Florida Legislative session, language was adopted in the 2009 implementing bill that addresses the State's ability to require activities to achieve reductions in nitrogen load from septic systems. The 2009 implementing bill language reads as follows:

### **Chapter 2009-82, Laws of Florida**

*Section 37. (1) In order to implement proviso following Specific Appropriation 471 of the 2009-2010 General Appropriations Act, and for the 2009-2010 fiscal year only, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a state agency may not adopt or implement a rule or policy that:*

*(a) Mandates or establishes new nitrogen-reduction limits that apply to existing or new onsite sewage treatment systems;*

*(b) Has the effect of requiring the use of performance based treatment systems; or*

*(c) Increases the cost of treatment for nitrogen reduction from onsite systems, before the study and report required in proviso following Specific Appropriation 471 is completed.*

*(2) This section is repealed July 1, 2010.*

Because the Wekiva Basin Management Action Plan will be adopted after this language expires (July 1, 2010), the Wekiva BMAP process will move forward as originally planned.

Projects to address onsite wastewater loads will be considered as part of the BMAP. Onsite wastewater project details will be determined by the BMAP Working Group with guidance from DEP. The Working Group is expected to carefully consider feedback from public meetings (to be scheduled), best available technology, and ongoing research.