

More lenient graywater code on horizon in CA

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LOS ANGELES — As one possible drought remedy, California is considering a reversal of its graywater code to a more lenient code that would allow alteration or installation of a graywater system without a construction permit, *Los Angeles Times* staff writer Susan Carpenter wrote in her July 6 [blog](#), "Greenspace."

The code presently applies to homeowners installing systems to recycle wastewater from their sinks, showers, bathtubs and laundry machines. Those systems must conform to Appendix G of the California plumbing code, which requires that graywater systems be permitted by the appropriate administrative authority and "installed underground with extensive filtering apparatus," Carpenter writes.

Reversal of the code, intended to conserve water by allowing a greater use of graywater, could happen as soon as August 4. Drought conditions have prompted state lawmakers to consider adopting the revised code prior to its original effective date of January 1, 2011.

The new code, which was submitted last week to the state's Building Standards Commission, divides residential graywater systems into three types: a clothes washer and/or single-fixture system; a simple system; and a complex system.