

ESSEX COUNTY

Division Of Community Planning And Development

William Johnston, Director

Elizabethtown, NY 12932

Telephone 518-873-6301

January 5, 1981

Robert C. Stevens
One Green Ridge Rd.
Pittsford, NY 14534

Dear Mr. Stevens:

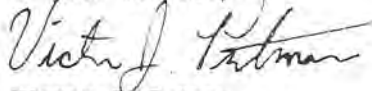
I am returning to you the mailing list you compiled for me of the Eagle Lake property owners.

After a thorough evaluation of the sewerage needs for all of Essex County's towns, the engineers have determined that the Town of Ticonderoga did not warrant extensive efforts on their part. The reasoning behind their decision include the fact the the firm of Ronald H. Laberge P.C. has been retained by the Town of Ticonderoga to evaluate populated portions within the town for sewerage facilities, also, the previously negotiated contract with our engineers (Cahn Engineers) included a provision to do in-depth analysis for only ten of the eighteen towns - those having the most severe wastewater disposal problems. This does not mean we are totally eliminating Eagle Lake from our planning efforts - we will not be sending newsletters to area residents (see enclosure), but the engineers will evaluate innovative and alternative solutions which could be applicable to Eagle Lake residents as well as other Lake shore residents with cost ranges for local evaluation.

The objective of our efforts are to move those communities with severe wastewater disposal problems into the Federal 201 Construction Grants Program for Community Facilities Planning and this preliminary effort has already begun in the Town of Ticonderoga. If you have not been contacted by the local engineers, I would suggest that you contact their office in Troy and make known your particular predicament with "Gleotrichia Echinulata"; shallow, pourous soils and small lot sizes.

I will keep you informed on any future progress which may eminate from our study. If you should require additional information or would like me to make myself available for any future meetings with your constituents, please feel free to call (518) 873-6301 Ext. 369, or write. I am:

In your service,



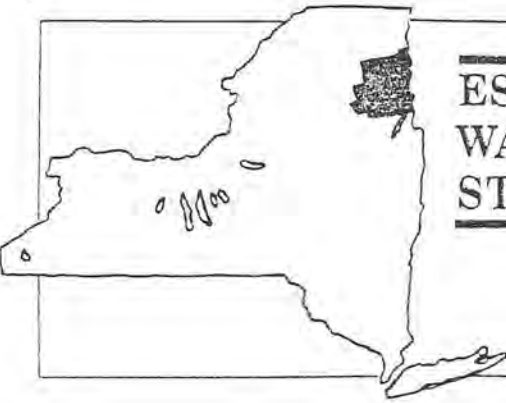
Victor J. Putman
Environmental Planner
Essex County Planning Office

VJP/lac

without enclosure
cc: Ronald H. Laberge, P.C.
3 Computer Drive
Albany, NY 12205

DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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ESSEX COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT STUDY NEWSLETTER II

ESSEX COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE
Church Street • Elizabethtown, NY 12932
(518) 873-6301 ext. 369, 375

Septic System Funding Possible for Essex County Homeowners

Essex County's state funded study of sewage problems and possible solutions is now getting to the interesting stage. It's not yet completed, but final results will help local residents decide whether their community should take advantage of a new federal program that provides 75 to 85 percent of the cost of repairing or replacing septic systems that no longer work properly.

Started in May 1980, the one-year study is being conducted by the Essex County Planning Office with help from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the consulting firm of Cahn Engineers Inc. This second newsletter reports our findings so far and points out some alternatives that residents will want to know about before decisions in Essex County are made. As part of the study, over 1400 homes were visited throughout the County last summer, and homeowners were asked questions on the condition and operation of their septic disposal systems. As expected, some of those surveyed had no problems with their septic system. However, roughly 70% did report an actual problem or were found to have a potential problem with their system, many of which would qualify for 75 to 85 percent federal aid. The number of problems or potential problems were different for each area reflecting a variety of

local conditions such as depth to bedrock, hardpan, clay soils and small lot sizes.

After the engineers tabulated the results of the survey, the Essex County Planning Office held public information meetings in ten towns with the most severe problems. At those meetings, the results of the survey were discussed as well as how residents felt about the problem and whether there was a willingness to improve the conditions. The efforts of this program are directed toward solving local water pollution and potential health problems in order to make our communities a pleasure to live in as well as attractive to visit. The federal government has finally realized that rural areas such as ours, require quite different approaches to water quality problems than those used in urban areas.

For the Essex County Wastewater Management Study to help your community, your ideas and suggestions are needed. The following pages summarize the results of the engineers' study on solutions which might be considered for your area. The future progress of this study must be tailored to your ideas. Therefore, we will be having another public meeting in your town to discuss possible solutions and future action. Please refer to the enclosed notice or watch your local newspaper for announcements of the upcoming meeting in your area.

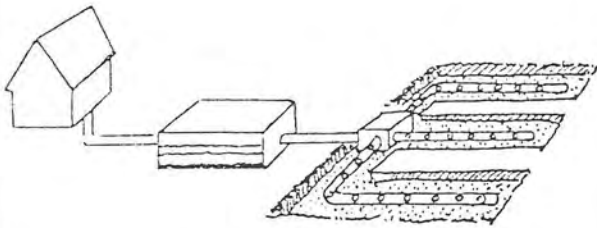
Sewage Disposal Methods

-- For Single Homes

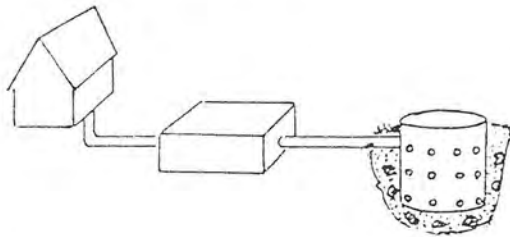
For most homes in rural areas, the septic tank and leach field system is the most practical and least expensive way to treat domestic sewage. If sized properly for the house, installed correctly and maintained regularly, the septic tank-

leach field or septic tank-seepage pit systems will work for the great majority of homes. However, all systems with septic tanks need regular maintenance--a pumpout every three to five years.

SEPTIC TANK-LEACH FIELD
Typical Cost: \$2300 to \$4400



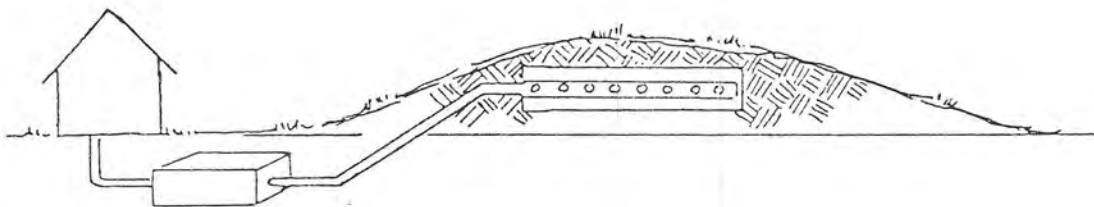
SEPTIC TANK-SEEPAGE PIT
Typical Cost: \$3500 to \$7400



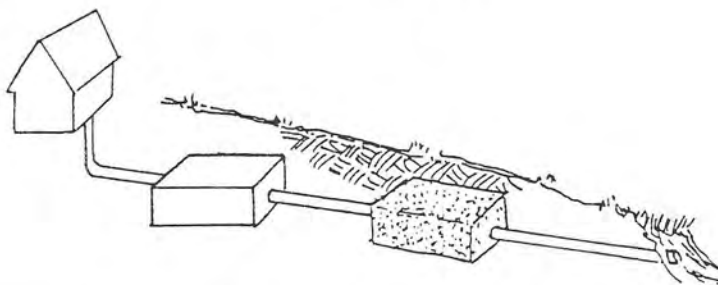
In some places where there is little soil above the ground-water or bedrock, more complex and expensive systems

are needed to properly treat the sewage. Some of these use a septic tank but have a different kind of leaching system.

SEPTIC TANK-MOUND SYSTEM
Typical Cost: \$3600 to \$4100



SEWAGE DISPOSAL METHOD-SUBSURFACE SAND FILTER



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13. How would the district obtain funds?

Property owners in the district who benefit from the program would be required to pay the district an annual user charge. In addition, it may be possible for the district to obtain a loan and/or grant from the Federal Farmers Home Administration to cover the non-federal share of the construction cost.

14. Would everyone in the district be assessed a user charge whether or not he participated in the program?

No. Only those who benefit would be required to pay and the amount they would have to pay would be in proportion to benefit received. Generally only those whose systems are repaired or replaced with Federal Aid would be assessed a user charge. Those whose systems are not repaired or replaced could be assessed a nominal amount. The district would decide.

15. Would building codes or zoning ordinances be required as a condition for obtaining the Federal Aid?

No. But a local ordinance would be required detailing the requirements listed under question 10, above.

PUBLIC MEETING! WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The purpose of the upcoming public meeting in your town is to tell you the results of the engineering study. Representatives from Cahn Engineers, Inc., will be at the meeting to discuss the solutions they think will correct septic disposal problems in your area. Your ideas and suggestions are needed to help make decisions concerning your community. The following table shows the date and time when we will meet in your town.

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS			
TOWN	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Chesterfield	3/30	7:00 PM	Town Hall
Crown Point	3/23	8:00 PM	Town Hall
Essex	3/18	7:30 PM	Town Hall
Keene	3/24	7:30 PM	Town Hall
Lewis	3/20	7:00 PM	Town Hall
Minerva	3/26	7:00 PM	Town Hall
Newcomb	3/27	7:00 PM	Fire Hall
Schroon	3/19	7:30 PM	Town Hall
Westport	3/31	7:30 PM	Town Hall (WADA)
Wilmington	3/25	7:30 PM	Town Hall

Questions? Comments!

If you have any questions about the Essex County Wastewater Management Study or if you would like to comment on the progress of the study, feel free to call or write Vic Putman at the Essex County Planning Office, Church Street, Elizabethtown, NY 12932 (518) 873-6301 Ext. 369.