



Georgica Pond Algae Bloom, July 2014  
Photo Credit: Mark Abramson

# Town of East Hampton Septic Rebate Program

## Upgrade Your Septic System to Help Improve Local Water Quality

**The Issue:**  
Septic Systems and Nitrogen Pollution of our Bays, Lakes, Harbors and Ponds.

**The Solution:**  
Upgrading Substandard Septic Systems with Low-Nitrogen Sanitary Systems

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Town of East Hampton  
Department of Natural Resources

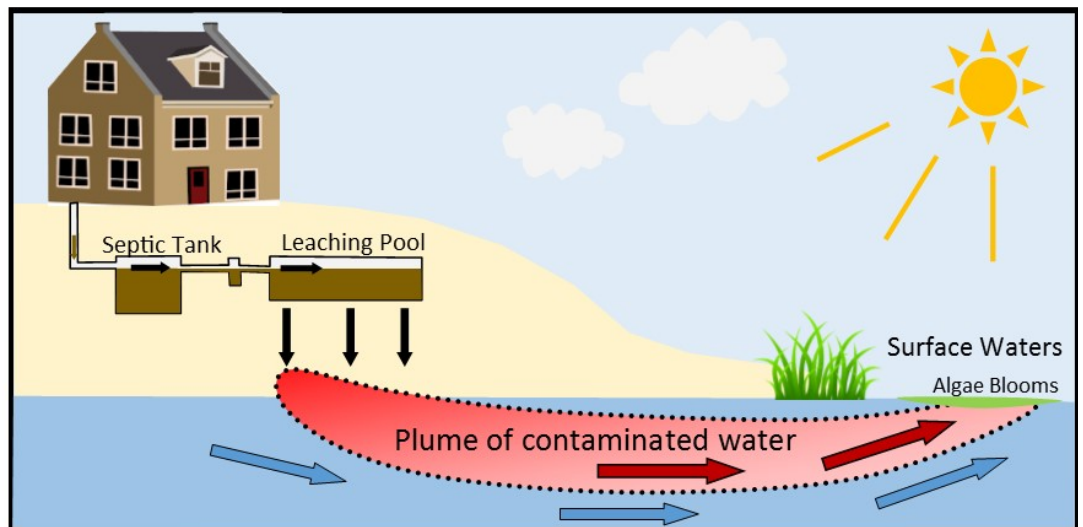
Phone: 631-324-0496  
Fax: 631-324-1476  
Email: NaturalResources@EHamptonNY.gov



### What is the problem?

- ◆ Nitrogen pollution is the greatest threat to the health of our lakes, ponds, and harbors here in East Hampton
- ◆ Issues include harmful algal blooms (HABs), low dissolved oxygen, and bacterial contamination leading to shellfish and bathing beach closures
- ◆ The largest source of nitrogen is from substandard septic systems discharging bacteria and nutrients directly into the groundwater

### What does your current system look like?



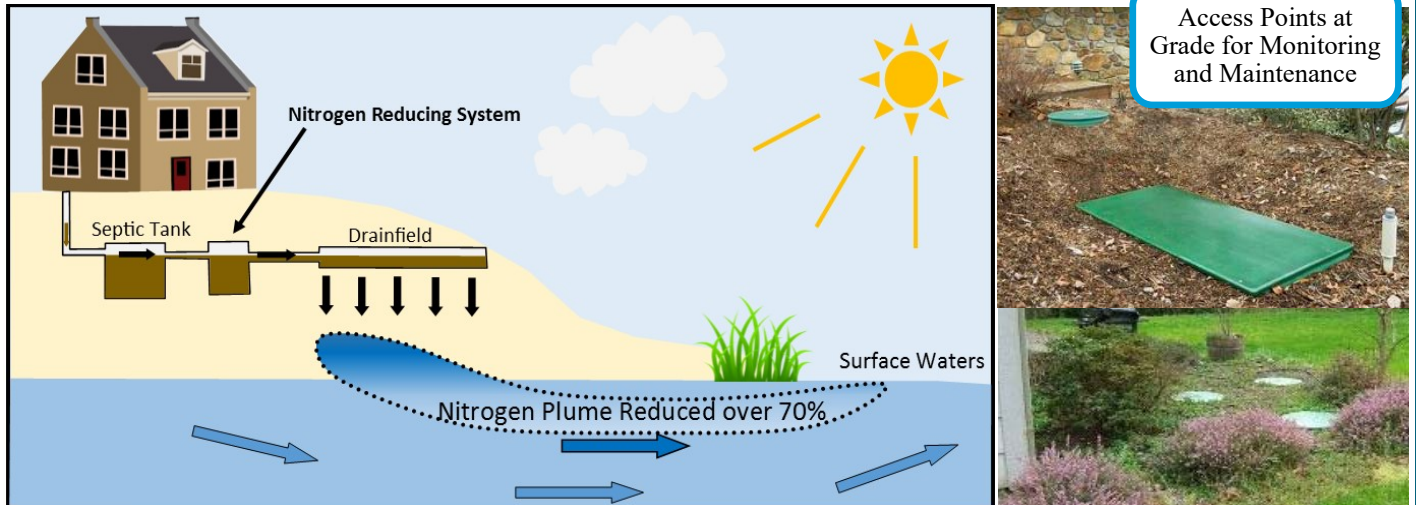
### Why should you upgrade your current system?

- ◆ Traditional septic systems do not treat nitrogen. This means that the majority of existing systems in the Town are sources of nitrogen and contribute pollutants to waterbodies
- ◆ Upgrade to a low-nitrogen system and you can reduce nitrogen and help improve local water quality
- ◆ Improved water quality means better fishing and shellfishing, swimming and boating and a healthy ecosystem
- ◆ Clean water can protect real estate values; installing a new septic system is a significant positive investment in the value of your home

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## What do the new systems look like?



*There is funding available for you to upgrade your sanitary system!*

## What is the rebate program being offered by the Town of East Hampton?

- ◆ Eligible owners with an annual income of less than \$500,000 may receive a rebate for the costs associated with upgrades
  - ◆ Up to \$16,000 if your property is located within the Water Protection District or you qualify for affordable housing
  - ◆ Up to \$10,000 if your property is outside of the Water Protection District
- ◆ Upgrade your existing substandard septic system to an approved low-nitrogen system
- ◆ This is all made possible through the newly established CPF Water Quality Improvement Fund

## What programs are being offered by Suffolk County?

- ◆ Suffolk County's Septic Improvement Program a grant is available for up to \$11,000 (\$10,000 for a low-nitrogen septic system and \$1,000 for a shallow drainfield)
- ◆ In addition, homeowners may be eligible to participate in a loan program to finance the remaining costs

If you are interested in participating in the Suffolk County Program, send an email to [septicdemo@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:septicdemo@suffolkcountyny.gov) with your name, address, phone number, and brief summary about your current system.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LOW NITROGEN SYSTEMS AND THE SUFFOLK COUNTY PROGRAM  
VISIT [WWW.RECLAIMOURWATER.INFO](http://WWW.RECLAIMOURWATER.INFO)