



# Clean Water East Hampton

Improving our Water – Protecting our Future

## Town of East Hampton Septic Rebate Program



Melissa Winslow  
Environmental Analyst  
Natural Resources Department

April 30, 2019

# Community Preservation Fund

- The mission of the CPF is to preserve community character - amended to include the protection and improvement of the quality of all water resources.
- East Hampton Town has purchased over 2,200 acres of land for preservation through CPF
- Up to 20% of annual CPF revenue to be used on water quality improvement projects
- Made specific recommendations for the water quality component of the CPF:
  - Over the life of the CPF water quality improvement plan, approximately \$160,000,000 could be available for water quality improvement projects



# Need for Water Quality Improvements

- ▶ Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
- ▶ Low Dissolved Oxygen
- ▶ Decline in aquatic habitat for seagrasses
- ▶ Shellfishing closures due to high bacteria levels
- ▶ Bathing beach closures
- ▶ Degradation of groundwater resources



# Main Sources of Pollutants

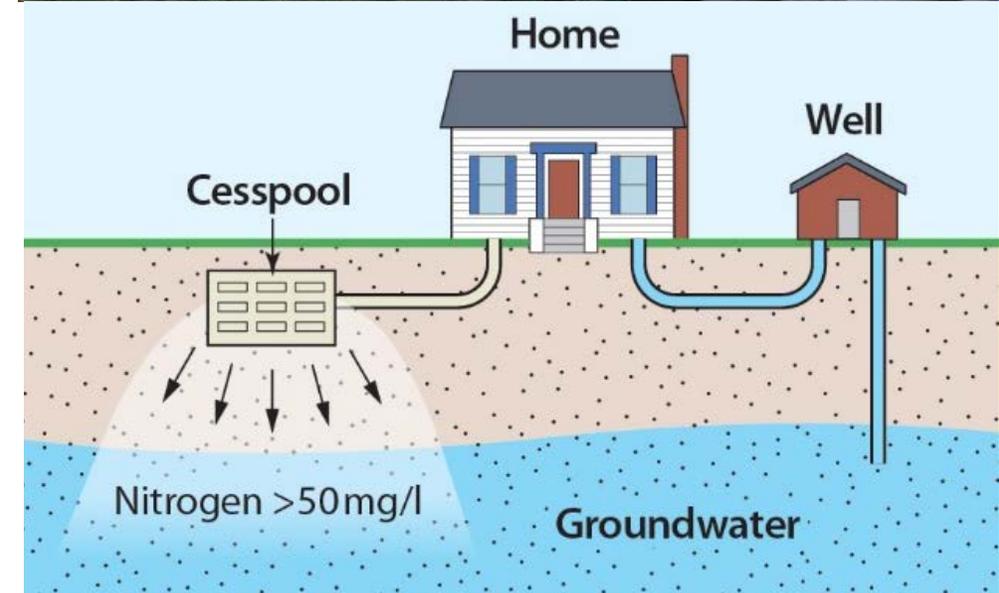
## ▶ Substandard/Failing Septic Systems

- ▶ Of ~19,400 developed parcels:
- ▶ ~12,500 using antiquated cesspools
- ▶ ~6,651 with leachfield system
- ▶ Not designed to treat nitrogen

\*Data sited in Town-Wide Wastewater Management Plan (2015)

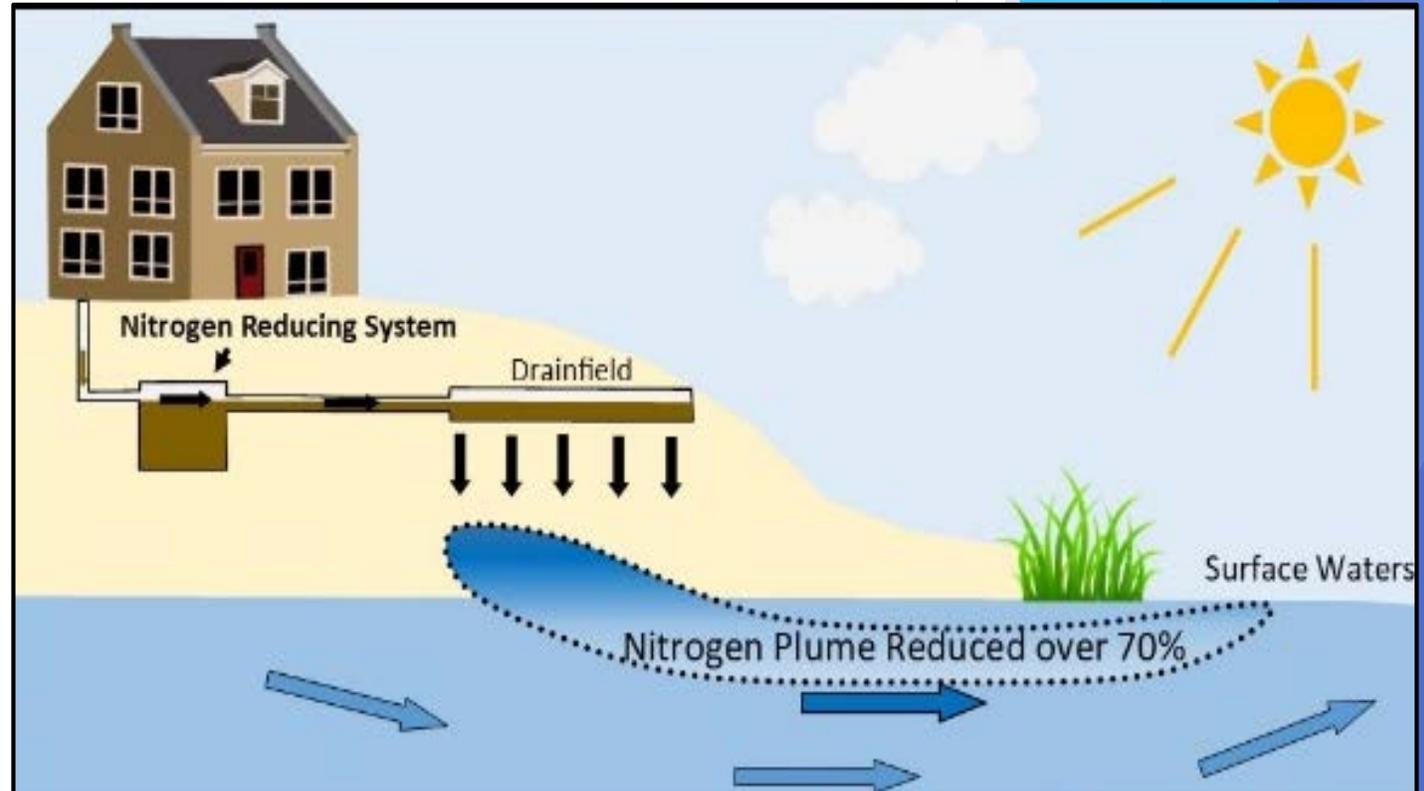
## ▶ Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Overland
- ▶ Septic Overflow



# Why should you upgrade your system?

- ▶ Cesspools do not treat wastewater to remove nitrogen
- ▶ Innovative/Alternative systems denitrify wastewater
- ▶ New systems improve water quality
  - ▶ Groundwater and surface waters
- ▶ Improved water quality means better fishing, boating, swimming and healthy ecosystem
- ▶ Clean water can protect real estate values



# SC DHS Provisionally Approved Technologies



**Hydro-Action**



**Fuji Clean System**

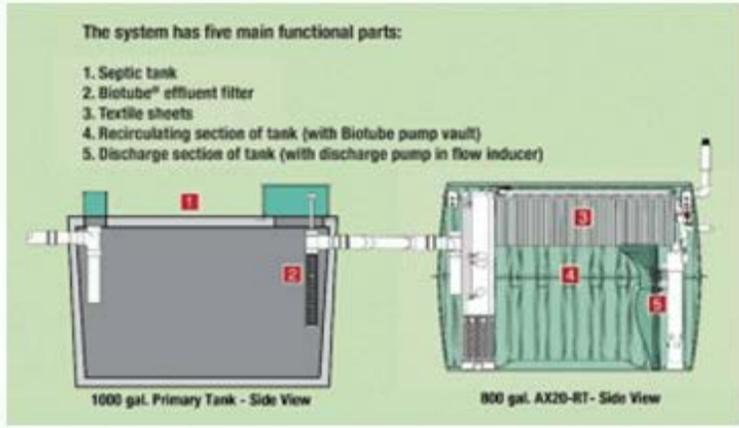


**Norweco Singlair TNT**

**SeptiTech STAAR**



**Norweco Hydrokinetic**



**Orenco Advantex AX-RT**

# Town of East Hampton Sanitary Code Changes

- Local Law amending Chapter 210: Sanitary Systems effective 1/1/2018
- Requires Building Permit for any work on Sanitary Systems within the Town
- Requires the installation of Low-Nitrogen Sanitary Systems in the following situations;
  - New construction
  - Any voluntary replacement of an existing system
  - All substantial expansion of existing structures (>50% GFA or Value)
  - All large capacity cesspools mandated under EPA regulations
  - All non-residential properties that require site plan review
- No special permit review required if new system is located in the same location as existing septic system
- BP/CO fees are waived

# Town of East Hampton Septic Rebate Program

- Rebate Program available for property owners to replace existing systems with Innovative/Alternative Septic Systems
  - Rebates up to \$16,000 in the Water Protection District or for homeowners who qualify for affordable housing
  - Rebates up to \$10,000 for all other eligible applicants
- Residential and commercial property owners are eligible
- Second homeowners and rental properties are eligible
- New construction not eligible
- Income eligibility for residential owners based on NYS STAR Program
  - Combined annual income <\$500,000
- Low-Income homeowners with failing systems can get extra help through the Town Housing and Community Development CHIP program



# How to Apply for the Septic Rebate Program

- Step 1: Fill out an eligibility application form and submit to Natural Resources (tax returns, CO, deed, survey, W9 form)
  - Ensures program eligibility
  - Indicates rebate amount
- Step 2: Fill out septic rebate application following installation
  - Once you receive approval from Suffolk County DHS and have TOEH Building Permit
  - Install I/A system
    - Notify Natural Resources of install date for inspection
  - Bring estimates/proof of payment to East Hampton Town Natural Resources Dept.
  - Receive Payment
    - Once application is submitted and approved, payment will be received in 4 to 6 weeks

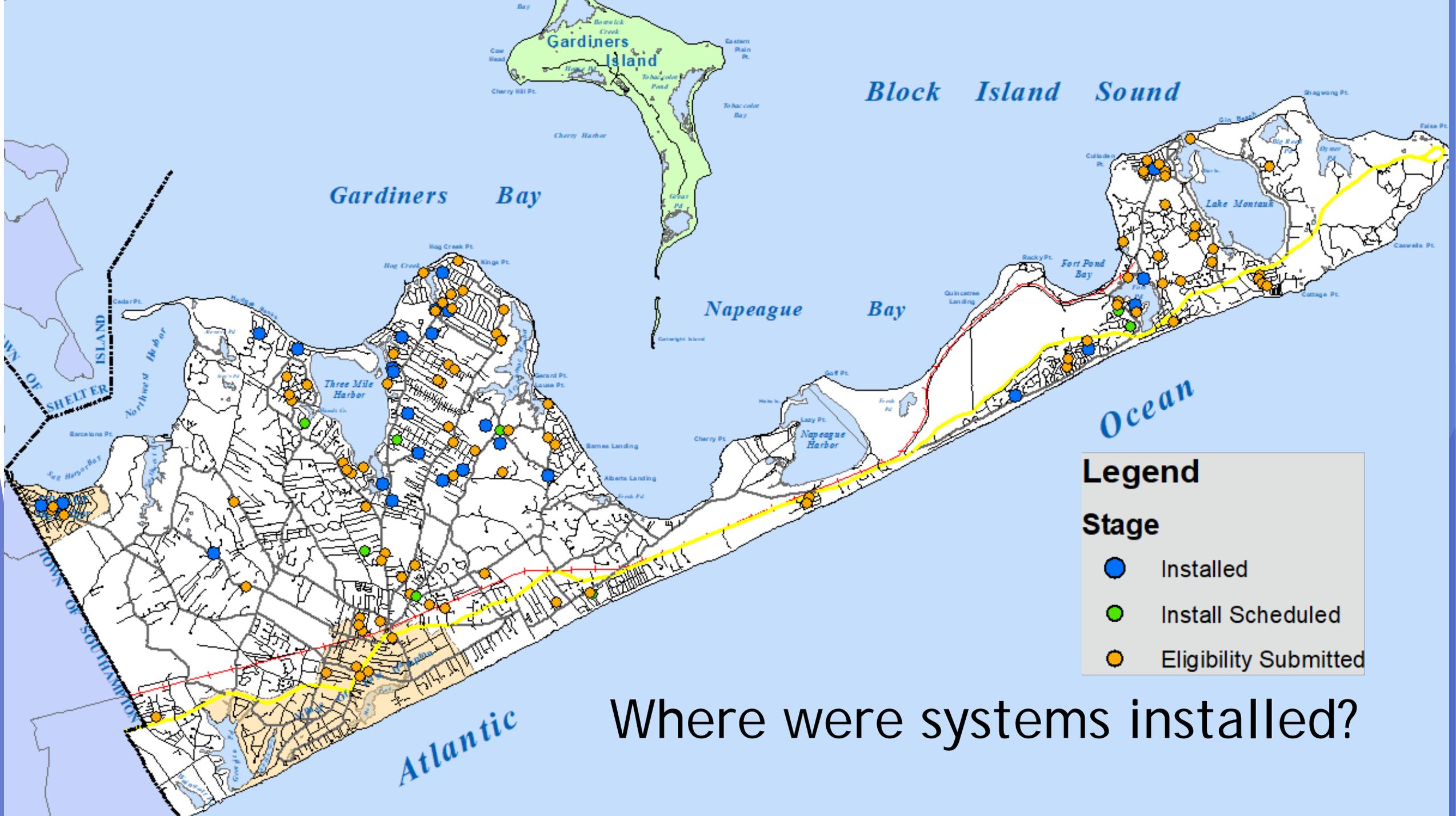
# Combined Funding Available

- Homeowners can receive all sources of funding!
  - Town Septic Rebate up to \$16,000
  - Suffolk County SIP Grant up to \$20,000
  - New York State Septic Replacement Fund up to \$10,000
- Total Rebate/Grant funding available up to \$46,000
  - Plus CDCLI Loan Program if needed up to \$10,000
- Additional assistance available to low-income homeowners through the Towns Housing and Community Development CHIP Program
  - Upfront costs are paid through the CHIP program which are reimbursed by the Rebate

# Septic Rebate Program Statistics

As of April 30, 2019

- Total Septic Rebate Eligibility Applications = 135
- Total Systems Installed through Rebate Program = 27 (9 more pending)
- Total Rebate Funds Paid in 2018 = \$195,255
- Total Rebate Funds Encumbered as of April 2019 = \$248,000
- Total Building Permits Issued for Low-Nitrogen Septic Systems = 110  
(includes new construction and those ineligible for rebate)



Where were systems installed?

# More Information:

- Town of East Hampton Projects & Septic Rebate Program:
  - TOEH Natural Resources Department
    - Mellissa Winslow - Environmental Analyst
    - Samantha Klein - Grants Technician
  - 631-324-0496 or [naturalresources@ehamptonny.gov](mailto:naturalresources@ehamptonny.gov)

