



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

159 Pantigo Road
East Hampton, New York 11937

PETER VAN SCOYOC
Supervisor

(631) 324-4140
pvanscoyoc@eamptonny.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EAST HAMPTON TOWN INSTALLS ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY, LOW NITROGEN SEPTIC SYSTEM AT AMAGANSETT PUBLIC RESTROOM

Will protect environment by reducing discharge of nitrogen, a primary water pollutant, by 80 percent

The first installation on town property of an “innovative, alternative” septic system was completed on Friday at the public restroom in the municipal parking lot in Amagansett.

So-called “innovative, alternative,” or I/A, septic systems are designed to sharply reduce the amount of nitrogen discharged into the environment.

Nitrogen has been identified as a key issue in water pollution and degradation of both drinking and surface waters.

The Fuji Clean septic system installed in Amagansett will reduce nitrogen emissions to 11.4 milligrams per liter, well below the 19 milligram per liter standard for such systems, and an 80-percent nitrogen reduction from what is emitted from a traditional septic system.

The installation of the system took approximately five days. The \$68,641 will be covered by Community Preservation Fund water quality money.

The CPF fund receives the proceeds of a two-percent real estate transfer tax. Up to 20 percent of the fund may be used for water quality protection and restoration; the remainder of the CPF is dedicated to land and historic preservation.

To protect and improve water quality, the Town of East Hampton offers grants to property owners to replace traditional septic systems with low-nitrogen versions, using CPF water quality funds.

To date, there has been a total of 102 installations of I/A septic systems in the Town, with an additional 27 pending. Approximately \$2.2 million in grants for low-nitrogen septic projects have been issued.

In conjunction with the town grants, property owners may apply for additional grants through Suffolk County and New York State programs.

Following the Amagansett installation, the town is planning to install low-nitrogen systems at the West Lake comfort station in Montauk and at Havens Beach in Sag Harbor.

Information about the Town of East Hampton septic improvement grant program is available on the town's website, at

<https://ehamptonny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2427/Septic-System-Upgrade-Process-PDF?bidId=>

or by calling the East Hampton Town Natural Resources Department at 631-324-0496.