



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAJOR STATE GRANT AWARDED TO TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON and SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

\$9.7 Million Will Pay for Wainscott Water Mains

New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo today announced a \$9.7 million water infrastructure grant award for East Hampton Town and the Suffolk County Water Authority, which will cover the costs of water main installation throughout the entire Wainscott Water District.

East Hampton Town Supervisor Peter Van Scoyoc and the Suffolk County Water Authority initiated the water main extension project in early 2018 in response to well testing begun in 2017 by the state and county health departments, which revealed the presence of perfluorinated chemicals (PFOS) in a number of Wainscott wells. The main installation is approximately 50 percent complete, and will ensure that more than 500 households have safe drinking water.

The \$9.7 million grant is part of \$200 million in state funding announced today for various efforts to address contaminants in drinking water supplies. It includes \$185 million for water treatment system upgrades to combat emerging chemical contaminants such as PFOS.

The grant to the Town of East Hampton and the water authority represents the largest award from \$15 million earmarked for ongoing community projects. All of the funding flows from Governor Cuomo's \$2.5 billion Clean Water Infrastructure Act.

The grant for the water main infrastructure in the town's Wainscott Water District will yield a savings for all of East Hampton's taxpayers, outside the incorporated villages.

Wainscott residents who hook up to the water mains will bear the costs of their hook-ups themselves, either through hiring a private plumber or using the Water Authority contractor, which will enable them to amortize the cost over a minimum of 20 years through an assessment on their tax bills.