

Small Cities Grant for Town-wide Septic System Repair and Wastewater Management District Upgrades

The Old Saybrook Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) announced last year that a Small Cities Grant of \$300,000 was available for septic system repairs. The grant was initiated to support the Sewer Avoidance policy and assist residents within certain income ranges with replacement of septic system components determined to be failing.

Recently, the WPCA, in consultation with the grant administrator, determined that the septic repair funds may also be used for properties in the WWMD that require upgrade. They do not have to be failing or malfunctioning at this time, only slated for repair under the Wastewater Management District Ordinance. If residents are unsure if their property is located in the WWMD, the 15 neighborhoods can be viewed online at www.oswpca.org or at the WPCA office where maps are available.

Some guidelines and income limits are as follows:

- ♦ For owner occupied non-commercial properties
- ♦ Not subject to interest or repayment schedule
- ♦ Repayable upon sale of the property, transfer of title or if property is no longer the primary residence. This constitutes a lien on the property.

- ♦ Income limits:
 - ♦ \$ 44,800.00 for an individual
 - ♦ \$ 51,200.00 for a 2 person household
 - ♦ \$ 57,600.00 for a 3 person household
 - ♦ \$ 64,000.00 for a 4 person household
 - ♦ \$ 69,100.00 for a 5 person household
 - ♦ \$ 74,250.00 for a 6 person household

If the Town fully utilizes the program and the current grant is closed out, we can then reapply. We hope residents will avail themselves of this opportunity for assistance and replace failing or ineffective septic components.

Questions on the grant or WWMD program can be answered by contacting the WPCA at (860) 395-2876 or admin@oswpca.org. The Connecticut River Area Health District is responsible for coordinating and permitting the repairs. They can be reached at (860) 661-3300.