

DECENTRALIZED WASTEWATER MOU PARTNERSHIP
MONTHLY UPDATE FOR PARTNERS
MARCH 2018

TANK TALK

We are excited to introduce the first quarterly webinar of 2018! Join us on March 21st to learn more about Suffolk County's innovative Septic Improvement Program. Also, the next review of the Septic Finance Learning module and the SepticSmart Week Steering Group call are scheduled for mid-March.

Highlights for this month:

- Septic Finance Learning Module Stakeholder Review Follow-up: Thursday March 15th 2:00pm - 3:00pm
- SepticSmart Week Steering Group call: Friday March 16th 11:00am - 12:00pm
- Decentralized Wastewater Webcast Series March 21st 1:00pm-2:30pm: Innovative Septic Improvement Program in Suffolk County, NY
- Upcoming Full Partnership Call: April 11th 1:00pm - 3:00pm EST

UPDATES

Full-Partnership Calls | Notes & Agenda | Soon

Stay tuned for the notes from the February 11th Full-Partnership call. Also, please send any items you would like to see on the April 11th Agenda to [Rvan](#).

DO YOUR PART, BE SEPTIC SMART!

Quarterly Webinar:

Suffolk County

March 21, 2018, 1:00pm - 2:30pm EST

Next Full Partner Call:

April 11, 2018, 1:00pm - 3:00pm EST

PARTNER EVENTS

ASDWA [2018 Member Meeting](#) March 12-14, Alexandria, VA

WEF [Membrane Technology Conference](#) March 12-16, West Palm Beach, FL

ACWA [2018 Mid-Year Meeting](#) March 19-21, Washington, DC

ECOS [2018 Spring Meeting](#) March 20-22, St Paul MN

WEF [Odors and Air Pollutants Conference](#) March 25-28, Portland, OR

Decentralized Wastewater Webcast Series | Suffolk County's Septic Improvement Program | March 21

Join us on March 21st 1:00pm-2:30pm as Peter Scully and Walter Dawydiak present Suffolk County's innovative Septic Improvement Program. This grant program assists homeowners with replacing their conventional septic system with advanced treatment units. About 74% of the population in Suffolk County, NY is served by decentralized wastewater systems. Tune in to learn more about how this program helps to reduce risk of nutrient pollution in the region's waterways. See flyer attached for more information.

Congrats | Dr. Whitehead Appointed to EPA Advisory Council | 2018-2019

Please join us in congratulating NEHA's Dr. Sandra Whitehead for being appointed to EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. With more than 30 years of experience, Dr. Whitehead will represent NGOs and provide recommendations related to environmental justice. Click [here](#) to learn more.

EFAB | Spring Meeting | Feb 20-21

The EFAB Spring Meeting was held on Feb 20-21 at the Willard Hotel in DC. Speakers discussed current EFAB work projects, environmental finance issues, and EPA priorities.

GET PUMPED

New Tribal Decentralized RME Brochure

We are pleased to announce the recent release of a new document: [Using a Responsible Management Entity \(RME\) to Manage Tribal Onsite \(Septic\) Wastewater Treatment Systems](#). Many tribal communities use septic systems to treat wastewater for their homes and businesses. Even if a community has a centralized sewer system, there are often homes in portions of the community that are serviced by septic systems. In cooperation with IHS and the National Tribal Water Council, OWM developed a tribal-tailored document describing the use of a centralized approach for the management of septic systems using a Responsible Management Entity (RME) for oversight and maintenance.

STRAIGHT FROM THE TANK

MOU Partnership | Priorities Document | Soon

Thank you for helping to craft the MOU Partnership priorities. The final priorities document will be a detailed workplan of the six MOU priorities outlined in Appendix A. This workplan incorporates the comments received during the MOU Renewal Meeting breakout discussions. We look forward to sharing the document with you and getting your feedback.

EPA | Decentralized Compendium | Working on Final Draft

The National Decentralized Wastewater Demonstration Project Compendium highlights the final reports submitted by project grantees on how they used congressionally ear-marked funds for local decentralized demonstration projects. The near-final draft is almost complete and will then undergo internal EPA review.

EPA/OWM/Decentralized Wastewater Team

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Decentralized Wastewater Webcast Series



Innovative Septic Improvement Program in Suffolk County, NY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018 • 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. ET

DESCRIPTION

Suffolk County, New York has a population of 1.5 million within a 900-square mile area. This area includes 360,000 septic/cesspools, serving 74% of the county's homes. The county spans two thirds of Long Island – ranging from high density suburban (NYC commuting area) to rural and agricultural lands. The county derives all its drinking water from a federally designated sole source aquifer. To the north, east, and south, Suffolk County is also surrounded by vulnerable surface water resources. While all sources of pollution may impact water quality, nitrogen from older onsite (septic) systems has emerged as the most widespread and least effectively addressed of the region's water pollutants.

This webinar will include remarks from Suffolk County officials working on this water quality issue and the county's new Septic Improvement Program. This grant program helps homeowners replace their outdated septic systems or cesspools with advanced onsite wastewater treatment technologies. These new systems are designed to significantly reduce nitrogen pollution. The Septic Improvement Program was created under the Suffolk County Executive, Steve Bellone's, Reclaim Our Water initiative. Launched in 2014, Reclaim Our Water also includes \$383 million in federal and state aid for the largest expansion of sewer infrastructure in Suffolk County since the 1970s.

This webinar applies to government, water, septic and public health officials, regulators, watershed managers, academia, product manufacturers, and onsite wastewater treatment systems practitioners.

For additional information on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Decentralized Wastewater MOU Partnership and past recorded webinars, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/septic>.

PRESENTERS

Peter Scully, Deputy Suffolk County Executive, oversees the County's "Reclaim Our Water" initiative after more than three decades of service in state and local government which focused largely on environmental policy issues. Prior to his appointment as Suffolk's "Water Quality Czar", Mr. Scully spent 12 years as the Long Island Regional Director for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Walter Dawydiak is the Director of Environmental Quality for the Suffolk County Department of Health Services. He is a Professional Engineer and an attorney with over 30 years of experience in managing environmental programs. Recently, Walter managed the completion of the Suffolk County Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan, which serves as the blueprint for Suffolk County's Reclaim our Water initiative.

MODERATORS

Zachary Lowenstein, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wastewater Management

Kristina Heinemann, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2

NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY. PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY TO ENSURE YOUR SEAT. SPACE IS LIMITED:

<http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/decentralizedmoupartnership/>