

# Septic Repair Funds and Proposed Bedford Hills and Katonah Hamlet Business Area Sewers

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q.** What is the Town's Septic System Repair and Replacement Program?

**A.** The Town enacted a Septic System Repair, Remediation or Replacement Reimbursement Program in 2015 that funds 50% of eligible repair, remediation or replacement costs for all residential or commercial properties located in the NYC Watershed. All of Bedford Hills and Katonah, and a good portion of northern and eastern Bedford Village, are in the NYC Watershed. To be eligible, the property must be found in failure by the Westchester County Department of Health. Contact the Bedford Planning Department at 666-4434 with any questions. More information can be found at [www.bedfordny.gov/departments/planning/septic/](http://www.bedfordny.gov/departments/planning/septic/)

**Q.** What are the Town's current plans for installing a sewer system in the commercial business areas of the hamlets of Bedford Hills and Katonah?

**A.** The Town has proposed a public sewer district to provide public sewers to the Central Business Zoning districts in the hamlets of Bedford Hills and Katonah and including the Katonah Elementary School (KES), St. Mary's School and the Bedford Park Apartments in Bedford Hills. Effluent from these areas would be sent to and treated at the existing sewerage plant at the Bedford Hills Correctional Institution. Ownership of this plant would be transferred to the Town and no increase in the capacity of the plant would be required. The majority of construction costs of the system would be provided by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

**Q.** Why are KES, St. Mary's and Bedford Park Apartments included?

**A.** They are included since they otherwise would have had wastewater plants constructed on their properties by New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as part of their efforts for watershed protection. Significant funding will be available from NYCDEP for the majority of the proposed sewer system construction, due in large part to avoiding the need to construct these 3 wastewater plants.

**Q.** Who pays for the system?

**A.** DEP is anticipated to pay the majority of the cost of construction. Construction (to the extent not funded by DEP), operation, and maintenance of the proposed sewer system will be paid for solely by property owners within the district.

**Q.** Where can I get the details of the plan?

**A.** A detailed description of the sewer district proposal, called the draft "Map, Plan and Report", has been prepared by the Town's consulting engineers, Arcadis, can be found at the Town's website at [www.bedfordny.gov](http://www.bedfordny.gov) (click on "Sewer Proposal").

**Q.** How would the proposed sewer system affect hamlet growth?

**A.** Having sewers would allow for more water use from the properties in the district, as they would no longer be restricted by DEP regulation limiting flow increases. The Town's proposal has approximately 64,000 of unused capacity that could be allocated to changes in use within the proposed district or serving properties out of the district. The Town is zealously committed to preventing uncontrolled growth. Growth would be restricted due to the Town's Zoning Code (such as the amendment last year to limit ground floor footprint) and the limited capacity of the proposed wastewater system.