

TOWN OF WAPPINGER



TOWN SUPERVISOR
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OFFICE OF THE TOWN SUPERVISOR

Dear neighbor,

This letter is being provided as a follow up to the prior letter inviting you to a meeting at Town Hall on March 13, 2025. If you had been able to attend that meeting, we thank you. Those in attendance heard that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is requiring that the flow of water FROM the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) that serves your district to have lower levels of pollutants and that the flow of water TO the WWTP must be reduced so that the total flow each day does not exceed what the plant is currently permitted to receive. During dry weather, the plant only receives about half of the amount of the permitted flow. But during wet weather the flow will actually exceed the permit amount.

We believe that a large portion of the "wet weather flow" may be coming from sump pumps that are helping to keep your basements dry, and possibly roof leaders from gutters, that may be connected to the sewer system. While protecting your basement is a very good thing, if your sump pump or roof leaders are discharging into the sewer system it is creating two very expensive problems for you that are not readily apparent.

The first problem is that the extra water makes it harder for the WWTP to treat the sewage and meet the requirements stipulated by the NYSDEC. This means that more expensive improvements will need to be designed.

The second problem is that the NYSDEC will require that the causes and sources of the extra water be found and eliminated to the maximum extent that is practical. This can result in very expensive investigation, studies and repair work.

So why are you getting this letter? The bottom line is to save you and your neighbors millions of dollars on studies, repairs and improvements associated with improving the WWTP and eliminating wet weather flow.

We want to know how many homes have sump pumps and gutters with roof leaders, and of those how many are connected to the sewer system. With this information we can potentially avoid investigations and studies and limit the scope of improvements that would be necessary to the WWTP.

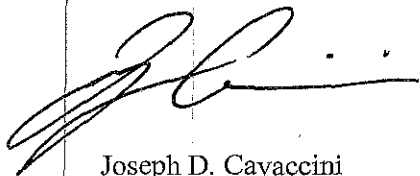
This is so potentially important that the Town is planning to conduct a door-to-door survey of all the homes to determine how many sump pumps and roof leaders are connected to the sewer system. If you know for sure that you do not have a sump pump or roof leaders (no gutters), you can call the Town at 845-297-2744 and leave that message with your name and address and we will not come to your house.

If you do have a sump pump or roof leaders connected to the sewer, you will NOT be mandated to disconnect them. Once we determine the number and location of homes with sump pumps and roof

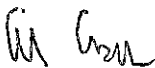
leaders currently connected to sewer it is our intention to incorporate into the design of the WWTP improvements, the disconnection of these sump pumps and roof leaders and reconnection to a stormwater system. This would be done as part of the WWTP project, and the costs of this work would be incorporated into that project. The individual homeowner would not be responsible for getting permits or hiring a contractor to do this work – the Town will coordinate all of this.

Please realize that through your collaboration you are not just helping our Town, you are helping yourself. Without your cooperation, this process will be much more difficult and much more expensive. If it turns out that we are correct in thinking that sumps pumps and roof leaders are a major contribution to wet weather flow to the WWTP we will eventually determine where they are. It will just take a lot more work and money, and any owner with a home in which a sump pump and/or roof leader is discovered to be connected to the sewer system would be issued a violation of the Town's sewer ordinance, would be subject to a fine, and would be mandated to disconnect at the homeowner's sole expense. So again, please help us to help you.

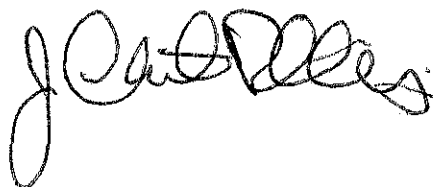
Respectfully submitted,



Joseph D. Cavaccini
Town Supervisor



Al Casella
Ward 4 Council Member



Christopher Phillips
Ward 3 Council Member