

Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan (LINAP) – February Update

This month's issue of the LINAP Newsletter highlights the release of Suffolk County's Wastewater Management District feasibility study.

Implementation plan for establishing a Suffolk County Wastewater Management District has been finalized.



Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone announced the release of a [feasibility study](#) and implementation plan to guide the establishment of a Countywide Wastewater Management District. The Wastewater Management District would facilitate the expansion of advanced wastewater infrastructure to replace 360,000 failing cesspools and septic systems, as recommended in the County's [Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan](#).

The study was funded by a grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Long Island Regional Planning Council. Establishment of the district has been designated an “early action” item under the [Long island Nitrogen Action Plan \(LINAP\)](#).

The Countywide Wastewater Management District will, in a phased approach:

- Create the administrative structure required to implement the County's new long-term water quality plan (Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan);
- Provide new benefits for homeowners through expanded financial assistance, better program management, and periodic inspection of septic systems;
- Serve as vehicle for new investments in water quality infrastructure to make system upgrades and sewer connections affordable for homeowners;
- Spur local job growth to help fuel the post-COVID economic recovery through establishment of a stable and recurring revenue stream to fund advanced wastewater treatment;
- Provide prescriptive advantages of a district for on-site installations comparable to those extended to sewer connections; and
- Provide for greater equity in sewer charges by equalizing rates among individual sewer districts.

The next step in the process for the proposed district is for a Task Force, composed of environmental, civic, and business leaders, to develop an implementation strategy and timeline.

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