



TOWN OF QUEENSBURY

742 Bay Road, Queensbury, NY. 12804-5902

Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Inventory Database

June 12, 2017

Dear Lake George Property Owner,

The Town of Queensbury Town Board is committed to support wastewater pollution reduction by encouraging property owners to recognize the importance of effective wastewater treatment on lands within close proximity to Lake George and other waterbodies within the Town.

As you may know, an onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS), typically known as a septic system, can be effective for treating wastewater from your home or business when it is properly designed, installed and maintained. However, an undersized septic system with increased seasonal usage, an OWTS installed on land with poor soil conditions, utilizing an antiquated design (a cesspool or a metal septic tank that may be corroded), and/or lack of routine maintenance can all lead to inadequate wastewater treatment. Polluting septic systems near waterbodies can detrimentally affect our drinking water and recreational enjoyment (predominantly swimming and fishing). It has been observed that insufficient treatment of wastewater within close proximity to Lake George or its tributaries negatively impacts water quality. Algal blooms (identified to be the genus of algae that grows in sewage) have been documented in recent years adjacent to the lake's shoreline.

Completion of the attached **OWTS Inventory Worksheet** will assist the Town of Queensbury in its database creation, specifically recording the type of septic system and maintenance for wastewater treatment on your property. Developed properties being inventoried at this time are located within 500 feet of Lake George and its tributaries, referred to as the Critical Environmental Area (CEA). Information regarding your septic system's location, its age, initial design and installation, overall functionality and necessary routine maintenance is being requested. If you do not have knowledge about your septic system, please check '**Unknown**' and complete the top portion of the worksheet, including a contact phone number and email. Please note that your Tax Map ID# has been printed on the address label located on the envelope mailed to you. Completed worksheets with attachments and a copy of your most recent pump out receipt can be mailed (or hand delivered) to my attention at the **Town of Queensbury Planning Office, 742 Bay Road, Queensbury, NY 12804**. After receiving your completed *OWTS Inventory Worksheet*, I may contact you to discuss your wastewater treatment or to assist you in scheduling a septic inspection and pump out.

In addition, the Town is asking that a property owner requests that a hired Septic Hauler completes the attached **Septic Hauler Worksheet** at the time of a septic tank pump out and inspection. This worksheet (as well as the *OWTS Inventory Worksheet*) can be printed from the Queensbury website.

Please don't hesitate to call me with questions, or if you would like me to work with you on any issues regarding your septic system. Thank you in advance for cooperating with this important public health initiative.

Sincerely,

Kathleen S Lindberg Bozony
Environmental Program Manager, Consultant
518.761.8231

Attachments

"Home of Natural Beauty... A Good Place to Live"