



How to Install an Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment System in Nassau County

The Problem:



Tens of thousands of homes in Nassau County rely on conventional septic tanks or cesspools to dispose of wastewater. Even when working as designed, these conventional systems allow nitrogen, pharmaceuticals, and other chemicals to pass through Long Island's sandy soils and into bays and harbors.



Nitrogen pollution can result in harmful algal blooms, fish kills, beach closures and contaminate groundwater with household chemicals. These events threaten public health, hurt local businesses, and impact our overall quality of life.

The Solution:



Advanced technology known as Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (I/A OWTS) can remove up to 90% of nitrogen from wastewater. I/A OWTS can help restore Long Island's commercial fishing, boating, and recreation industry as well. Nassau County has implemented a grant program known as the Septic Environmental Program to Increase Cleanliness (S.E.P.T.I.C. Program) to provide grants to help finance these.

The Process:

- 1 Apply for Provisional Approval**

Applicant applies for provisional approval at nassaucountyny.gov/SepticReplace. Provisional approval ensures the applicant that the Nassau County S.E.P.T.I.C. Program will reimburse the homeowner or small business provided all requirements are met.
- 2 Provisional Grant Award**

Applicant submits design contract and is awarded with a Provisional Grant Award. This award lets the applicant know that the funds have been provisionally allocated to their project. Applicant must submit required documents as outlined by the Nassau County S.E.P.T.I.C. Program to receive reimbursement.
- 3 Hire Design Professional**

Upon receiving provisional approval, the applicant has 60 days to submit a design contract as written by a design professional. Visit our website for design contract requirements.

Hire Installer and Apply for Building Permit
- 4 Hire an installer for the installation for your new I/A OWTS. Upon signing a contract with your installer, submit a building permit application to your local town or village. The installer must be fully licensed in Nassau County and have the required insurance credentials. Design plans must be included in building permit application.**
- 5 Property Owner Installs I/A OWTS**

After receiving your approved building permit application, installation of the new I/A OWTS may begin. Your local town or village completes the final inspection. Homeowner submits all corresponding documents to the Nassau County S.E.P.T.I.C. Program for final review.
- 6 Reimbursement**

Upon receiving all required documents, reimbursement will be issued. The applicant can be directly reimbursed, or they can assign payment to the installer directly.

Grant Eligibility Criteria:

- The residence/small business/not-for-profit must be served by a septic system or cesspool and not connected to a sewer system or located within a proposed sewer district.
- New construction on vacant lots is not eligible.
- Property does not have any outstanding or open real property tax liens.
- There must be a valid certificate of occupancy (CO), or equivalent issued by the applicable town or village.
- Note that there may be additional requirements. See our website or call our office for details.

The Solution:



If you would like to replace your conventional or failing septic system with an I/A OWTS, please contact **The Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District**.



516-364-5861
SepticSWCD@optimum.net





Bruce Blakeman
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

NASSAU COUNTY S.E.P.T.I.C. PROGRAM

(Septic Environmental Program To Improve Cleanliness)



Example of I/A septic system being installed in Sea Cliff.

Grant Funding Details

The Septic System Replacement Grant Program will provide funding to grant recipients to replace a conventional or failing cesspool or septic system with an Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (I/A OWTS). Nassau County is willing to **reimburse up to \$20,000** for homeowners or small businesses to install state-of-the-art nitrogen reducing septic systems. Certain conditions must be met for grant reimbursement.

Visit our website at:
NassauCountyNY.gov/SepticReplace to find out if you are eligible.

Why opt for Innovative and Alternative Systems?

Nitrogen pollution from cesspools and septic systems has been identified as **the largest single cause of degraded water quality on Long Island**, contributing to beach closures, restrictions on shellfishing, toxic algae blooms, and massive fish kills. When properly designed, installed and maintained Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (I/A OWTS) provide a cost-effective and environmentally sound alternative to sewers in areas that are outside designated sewer areas. These systems, through biological processes, significantly reduce:

- Nitrogen
- Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)
- Total suspended solids

Before being discharged below grade to leaching structures, Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (I/A OWTS) can provide greater performance, reliability and reduce the number of pump outs for property owners that currently pump out their wastewater systems more than once per year.

Eligibility

Nassau County residents and small businesses that discharge less than 1,000 gallons a day of wastewater are eligible for grants to install Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (I/A OWTS) provisionally approved by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services. The list of provisionally approved manufacturers can be found at NassauCountyNY.gov/SepticReplace

Contractors who install these systems must have a Nassau County Home Improvement Contractor License, as well as the appropriate insurance credentials. Additional eligibility criteria include but are not limited to:

- The residence/small business must be served by a septic system or cesspool and not connected to a sewer system.
- Property does not have any outstanding or open real property tax liens.
- There must be a valid certificate of occupancy (CO) or equivalent.



Fuji Clean CEN Series Installation in Sea Cliff, NY - Installation by Discount Cesspool.

For more Information email us at

SepticReplace@nassaucountyny.gov OR call (516) 364-5861