

Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island



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PRESS RELEASE

North Kingstown Is Awarded U.S. EPA Grant for Wastewater Initiatives

North Kingstown, RI — It was announced earlier this week that the Town of North Kingstown is among the successful applicants to the Southeast New England Program (SNEP) network, having been awarded \$450,000 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for upgrades and enhancements to decentralized wastewater systems in its coastal neighborhoods.

As outlined in its application to the grant opportunity, the Town of North Kingstown will utilize fundings for several wastewater improvement initiatives, including providing homeowner subsidies for upgrades from traditional septic systems or old/failing cesspools to those with innovative nitrogen-reducing components. Local septic system upgrades are critical to building the region's resiliency to the impacts of climate change and to improve the quality of our community's coastal waters.

"This funding will give homeowners relief from a significant portion of the cost burden associated with upgrading or replacing a residential septic system" A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager, says. "With improved decentralized systems in place, North Kingstown will be more resilient to the expected impacts of climate change, and the water-based economics and recreation at the heart of our community will be protected for years to come," Mollis stated.

Nicole LaFontaine, Director of Planning and Development, looks forward to engaging with members of the North Kingstown community and helping to educate homeowners as to the innovative residential wastewater solutions they can implement with the award, "Reducing nutrients from septic systems, stormwater and fertilizer in decentralized wastewater systems will positively impact our community's ecosystem, and I look forward to helping North Kingstown residents utilize this program." Questions from interested homeowners can be directed to Beth Gagnon-Glasberg in the Planning Department at (401) 268-1571.

Please contact Kate Glass, Executive Assistant, at kglass@northkingstownri.gov with any questions regarding this Press Release.

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