



VILLAGE OF EAST HILLS

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IA SYSTEM INFORMATION

For new or substantially improved structures constructed under building permits issued on or after October 1, 2023, new IA Sanitary Systems must be installed*

[Section 271(7)(B) & Section 280]

What is an IA System?

An onsite decentralized wastewater treatment system(s) that is designed to reduce total nitrogen in treated effluent. These systems are also known as “Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems”, IAOWTS, IA Systems, nitrogen-reducing septic systems, or clean water septic systems. Before being discharged below grade to leaching structures, IA Systems 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.

What is the benefit of an IA System?

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. A conventional onsite septic system was never designed to remove nitrogen. The average residential septic system discharges approximately 40 pounds of nitrogen per year. When properly designed, installed, and maintained, IA Systems can provide a cost-effective and environmentally sound alternative. These systems, through biological processes, significantly reduce nitrogen, biochemical oxygen demand, and total suspended solids.

What do I need to do to get an IA System?

First, you should reach out to the Nassau County SEPTIC program at 516-364-5861 (SepticReplace@nassaucountyny.gov) or Olivia Calandra (ocalandra@nassauswcd.org), and they will let you know what is needed to file for the new system. Nassau County processes everything through their end, and can help you with anything required in the process. They also have **lists of accepted technologies** and **provisionally accepted installers and designers** which are frequently updated. Lastly, you will submit the **East Hills Application for Cesspool Permit** for the IA System, including the information provided by your design professional.

What is the Nassau County SEPTIC Program?

Nassau County has initiated a septic system replacement program for residents and small businesses – Septic Environmental Program to Improve Cleanliness (SEPTIC). The SEPTIC program will provide grant funding to eligible recipients to replace a conventional or failing septic system with an Innovative and Alternative Onsite Wastewater Treatment System. Nassau County is offering grants 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 NassauCountyNY.gov/SepticReplace or nassauswcd.org/SEPTIC to find out if you are eligible.

*Can I switch to an IA System without doing a major house renovation?

Yes, any traditional system can be replaced by an IA System. We encourage you to reach out to the Nassau County SEPTIC Program to find out more!