



## *Town of Stony Point*

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### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Town of Stony Point needs to attract businesses to its industrial/commercial zones to lessen the tax burden on the residents. We have also been made aware of an increasing occurrence of septic system failures with the properties located north of Wayne Avenue through both the County Health Department and NYSDEC.

The Town's existing sewage treatment plant needs to have adequate capacity to handle the increased wastewater flow from both the residential properties to the north of Wayne Avenue as well as the new commercial developments.

The Town will shortly begin a program of smoke testing the sanitary sewers to identify illegal roof leader connections to the system. Those property owners identified as having an illegal connection will be given the choice of performing the work themselves, or having the Town perform the work and reimbursing the Town.

We are also using an outside consulting firm to conduct infiltration studies of known sections of the municipal sanitary sewage system where groundwater infiltration has been suspected for some time.

But there is another source of illicit discharges to the sanitary sewer system. In the past, it may have been standard practice to tie basement sump pumps to the sanitary sewer service lateral. However, in accordance with the current plumbing and sewer codes, as well as the regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), these types of connections are illegal and must be disconnected immediately.

The work that will need to be done does not need to be performed by a Licensed Plumber. Homeowners can do the work themselves. It simply requires that the discharge pipe from the sump pump (normally a flexible corrugated plastic pipe)

be routed such that it will discharge outside of the building, preferably toward the street where storm drainage systems are normally found.

If any homeowner is unsure as to how to fix the problem, they can contact me in my office to set up a time when I can sit down with them and discuss the options available.

If we can eliminate a substantial amount of groundwater and roof runoff entering the sanitary sewer system, the Town will be able to provide capacity at the plant without costly upgrades. It will also mean that we will not have to by-pass flow to the Haverstraw Sewage Treatment Plant, which will create an expense for the Town.

And that means an expanding commercial/industrial base which could lead to a more stable and hopefully lower municipal tax burden on the homeowners in Stony Point.

Your cooperation in this effort will be greatly appreciated.