

# **NEWS** from the Catskill Watershed Corp

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## **CWC repaired 244 septic systems in 2014**

MARGARETVILLE, January 12, 2015 – The Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) funded the repair or replacement of 244 septic systems in the 1600-square-mile Catskill-Delaware (West of Hudson) Watershed in 2014.

Since the program began in 1997, a total of 4,603 systems have been fixed in the West-of-Hudson (WOH) Watershed, preserving water quality, employing hundreds of engineers, contractors and material suppliers, and saving homeowners thousands of dollars.

A separate Septic Maintenance Program helped pay to pump out and inspect 209 systems in 2014. The total number of systems thus maintained has reached 1,227. Owners of septic systems installed since 1995 are eligible to have their systems pumped every three years, with CWC picking up half the cost in order to extend the life of these on-site wastewater treatment systems.

At its January 6 meeting, the CWC Board of Directors approved a resolution to reimburse individuals who have repaired or replaced a septic system at their own expense between July 21, 2008 and December 31, 2014 because they were outside the program priority area and thus did not qualify for the program at the time.

For information on whether you qualify for reimbursement, call the CWC at 845-586-1400, or visit [www.cwconline.org](http://www.cwconline.org).

The CWC pays 100% of eligible costs for on-site septic system repairs for full-time Watershed residents, and 60% of the costs for non-primary residents.

Most participants in the Septic Rehabilitation and Replacement Program are owners of residences or home-based businesses. But a total of 17 commercial properties have also been addressed through the Small Business Septic Program, which pays 75%, up to \$40,000, to repair or replace failed septic systems serving businesses that are outside municipal septic districts.

The CWC's multi-faceted septic program works to prevent untreated sewerage from contaminating groundwater, streams, ponds and NYC reservoirs by providing homeowners and businesses with reimbursement for the cost of compliance with State and Watershed regulations.