

[insert county letterhead here]

Property Owner Address:

Dear Property Owner:

Your property located at _____ has been identified by New York State as being located in a priority geographic area where there is a critical need to reduce the impact of sewage effluent from cesspools and septic systems on groundwater and surface water.

Accordingly, you may be eligible to receive a grant from the Septic System Replacement Program (the "Program") to reimburse you for a portion of the cost of replacing a cesspool, or repairing, replacing or upgrading a septic system.

The Program provides grants to cover up to 50% of the eligible costs of eligible septic system projects, up to \$10,000 per project.

To apply for a grant, please complete the attached grant application and submit it to the County by _____. The application must contain sufficient information about the condition of your septic system and the scope and cost of the proposed repair or replacement, to enable the County to determine whether your project qualifies for a grant, and assess how much you're eligible for. Please read the application carefully and be sure to provide all the requested information. Failing to do so could result in a delay or denial of funding from this program.

Funds for the Program are limited, and the County can provide grants only to those septic system projects that will significantly and quantifiably reduce environmental and/or public health impacts from cesspools or septic systems. If your project is selected for a grant, the County will notify you of your award and how much you can expect to be reimbursed for your project. The County will also notify you if your project does not qualify for a grant.

If you receive an award letter, you must confirm acceptance of the award and the terms and conditions by signing and returning the letter to the County. Once you sign and return the award letter, you may hire a design professional and a contractor for your septic system project. After you have completed your project, you will be reimbursed up to your grant award, for eligible, documented costs incurred to complete your project.

The County encourages you to apply to this Program. This is a unique opportunity for cooperation between the state, local government, and property owners, to address a pressing environmental and public health issue in our community, and we hope you will take advantage of it.

For more information about the program, visit the county's web site at _____, and the Environmental Facilities Corporation's website at www.efc.ny.gov/SepticReplacement.