

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Steve Stern

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR
SIXTEENTH DISTRICT
1842 E. Jericho Turnpike, Suite P
HUNTINGTON, NY 11743



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Amanda Lindner
LEGISLATIVE AIDE
OFFICE: 631-854-5100, Cell: 631-245-3119
Amanda.Lindner@suffolkcountyny.gov

19 SUFFOLK COUNTY RESIDENTS TO WIN FREE SEPTIC SYSTEM

Legislator Steve Stern encourages residents to participate in lottery to receive advanced wastewater treatment system

HUNTINGTON, NY – Legislator Steve Stern (D-Huntington, 16th L.D.), is notifying homeowners of a Suffolk County-wide lottery, in which 19 homeowners will receive a FREE advanced wastewater treatment system, including installation, monitoring and maintenance for five years, as part of a pilot program to reduce nitrogen contamination in our ground water.

The pilot program is part of Suffolk County's *Reclaim Our Water* initiative, a comprehensive plan to improve the County's water quality, restore the region's natural storm barriers by eradicating nitrogen pollution by means of sewerage targeted areas and implementing advanced on-site wastewater treatment systems. Residents are encouraged to fill out an application by visiting <http://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/PublicWorks/SepticDemonstrationProgram.aspx>.

“More than 70-percent of Suffolk County is unsewered. This leads to excess nitrogen levels in our ground water. Septic systems are vital to helping to solve our water quality crisis,” Legislator Stern said. “Expanding our sewer infrastructure is the key our future.”

The 19 systems were donated by four national manufacturers, BUSSE Green Technologies, Norweco, Orenco Systems and Hydro-Action Industries, all of which have extensive presence across the country, as well as Europe, in removing excess nitrogen from residential and commercial properties. The advanced wastewater treatment systems are valued at up to \$15,000 per system.

Applications are due November 14, 2014. After a thorough screening process, a random drawing will be conducted to select the 19 qualified homeowners.