



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2018

EAST HAMPTON TOWN TO ASSIST WAINSCOTT RESIDENTS WITH CONTAMINATED WELLS WITH THE COST OF IN-HOME WATER FILTRATION SYSTEMS

Residents of Wainscott whose private wells have been found by health officials to contain perfluorinated chemicals in any amount, and who install an in-home “Point of Entry Treatment” system, (or POET), will be eligible for a rebate of up to 90 percent of the cost, or a maximum of \$3,000.

While the town is working with the Suffolk County Water Authority to have public water mains extended through the hamlet to insure a continual source of clean drinking water – a \$24 million project that is expected to be complete by the end of 2018 – and has provided bottled water to affected residents, a public health concern over exposure to the chemicals, known as PFCs, (in particular PFOA and PFOS), has prompted the immediate establishment of the rebate program.

A state of emergency declaration made Tuesday by East Hampton Town Supervisor Peter Van Scoyoc provides the legal authority for the town to make the funds available.

“To address serious concerns about well contamination in Wainscott, while we extend public water, the town board is making the funds available to reimburse residents who install treatment systems in households where chemicals have been detected,” said Supervisor Van Scoyoc. “Clean water remains a number-one concern for the town board, whether it is drinking water or the health of our surface waters. We will continue to respond to any threats and to work to safeguard clean water.”

Detections of the perfluorinated chemicals both above and below a “health advisory level” have been found in an ongoing well testing program, and a state investigation is under way as to the source or sources.

A special town board meeting to hold a public hearing on the establishment of a Wainscott Water Supply District will be held at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. on May 21.

Qualifying Wainscott residents who are interested in taking advantage of this program should contact the East Hampton Town Purchasing Department, at 631-324-4183, for more details.