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## \$6 Million Community Wastewater Upgrade in Delaware County Helps to Protect New York City Water Supply

Wastewater from individual septic systems in South Kortright, a hamlet in the Delaware County Town of Stamford, is now being pumped to the Village of Hobart's Wastewater Treatment Plant through a project coordinated by the Catskill Watershed Corp. (CWC). A \$5.7 million New York City-funded block grant from the CWC's Community Wastewater Management Program provided the funds to upgrade the Hobart plant and install a large diameter gravity sewer collection system that carries wastewater to the plant from 43 properties whose on-site septic tanks were decommissioned. The work helps to protect water quality in New York City's Cannonsville Reservoir.

"This is the eighth community to benefit from a wastewater treatment system constructed under the CWC's program," said **Catskill Watershed Corp. Executive Director Alan Rosa**. "These projects benefit the environment, give some peace of mind to residents, and make our hamlets more attractive to prospective new businesses and homeowners. We thank the people of South Kortright for their patience during this year of construction."

"Decades of data have shown that drinking water quality in New York City reservoirs has improved because of upgrades to wastewater collection and treatment in the watershed," **DEP Acting Commissioner Vincent Sapienza** said. "This new collection system in South Kortright will continue to protect drinking water while also providing reliable infrastructure for local residents and businesses in Delaware County. I'd like to thank CWC for guiding this project and many others like it."

The work included laying more than 4,000 linear feet of sewer main. Grease traps were installed at two businesses and a church, and four 10,000-gallon emergency holding tanks were installed in two locations. The project was designed by Lamont Engineers. The collection system, which can handle 20,000 gallons of wastewater per day, was constructed over the past year by F. P. Kane Construction, Inc. CFI Construction, Inc. handled installation of new pumps and storage tanks at the Village of Hobart Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), which was upgraded to handle 200,000 gallons per day (up from 180,000 gallons per day). Stilsing Electric did the electrical work at the plant.

The sewer district includes properties along Delaware County Road 18 from Madison Hill Road to NYS Route 10. Wastewater is pumped through a main that burrows beneath the West Branch of the Delaware River and Route 10 to a metering vault at the Allen Residential Center (ARC) before being pumped to Hobart. The state-run ARC has long been connected to the WWTP. Operating responsibility of the pump station and forcemain has been transferred from the ARC facility to the Town of Stamford, which also inked an agreement with the Village of Hobart for use of the WWTP.

More Information

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The new collection system will be turned over to the Town when final completion approval is given by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). DEP will provide operation and maintenance funds for both the collection system and the WWTP. Sewer district residents will pay a \$100 annual user fee to the Town of Stamford. Commercial entities will pay fees based on water use (a minimum of \$250 per year).

Although it is not located in the sewer district, South Kortright Central School will be connected to the new system, allowing it to abandon its deteriorating on-site septic tanks and leach fields. The school will pay the Town of Stamford an annual user fee.

F. P. Kane has moved its equipment to Lexington, Greene County where crews are installing laterals to 47 properties in another CWMP project. There, wastewater will be carried to a series of 18 absorption beds which were completed in 2015. The system is expected to be operational later this summer. In the past 14 years, the CWC, under its Community Wastewater Management Program, has also developed septic solutions in the hamlets of Ashland, Bovina, Bloomville, Hamden, Delancey, Boiceville and Trout Creek. Five additional hamlets are in the planning or design phases: Claryville, Halcottsville, New Kingston, Shandaken and West Conesville.

The [CWC](#) is a non-profit, Local Development Corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than one billion gallons of high quality water each day to more than 9 million New Yorkers. This includes more than 70 upstate communities and institutions in Ulster, Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties who consume an average of 110 million total gallons of drinking water daily from New York City's water supply system. This water comes from the Catskill, Delaware, and Croton watersheds that extend more than 125 miles from the City, and the system comprises 19 reservoirs, three controlled lakes, and numerous tunnels and aqueducts. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 scientists, engineers, surveyors, watershed maintainers and other professionals in the upstate watershed. In addition to its \$70 million payroll and \$157 million in annual taxes paid in upstate counties, DEP has invested more than \$1.7 billion in watershed protection programs—including partnership organizations such as the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Watershed Agricultural Council—that support sustainable farming practices, environmentally sensitive economic development, and local economic opportunity. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program with nearly \$14 billion in investments planned over the next 10 years that will create up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year. For more information, visit [nyc.gov/dep](http://nyc.gov/dep), like us on [Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#).

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