



Phase 1 Sewer Expansion Infrastructure Project Overview

Why are Sewers Being Proposed?

- RIDEM studies along the Tiverton shoreline found areas contaminated with fecal bacteria commonly associated with failed septic systems
- To comply with the 2007 Cesspool Act
- Only a small minority of septic systems in the area are considered conforming, according to RIDEM records
- The Facilities Plan Update for the Town of Tiverton indicates sewers for certain areas of town would be the most effective and efficient wastewater management solutions because of high ground water, soil conditions and proximity to watershed areas

What are the Benefits?

- Sewer provides greater flexibility for the use of your home, providing fewer restrictions when considering improvements such as adding a deck, a pool or putting on an addition.
- It is less disruptive to the property and involves less equipment protruding through the soil. You can have your property look the way you want it to look without unsightly equipment.
- It is best for the environment. Even the best on-site system still puts unwanted nutrients into the ground and waterbody. Too much nitrogen in the waterbody can cause an overgrowth of algae and other plants. Over time, the plants will deplete the oxygen levels in the water which can trigger fish kills and depletion of other aquatic life.
- Sewer prevents fecal matter from getting into the water body from failed systems. No one wants to fish, swim, or boat in water that has sewage in it.

Who is Responsible for What?

- The system will be owned and maintained by the TWWD so there are no hassles to the homeowner.
- All wastewater will be treated at the Fall River Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant which discharges highly treated water back into the water body.
- TWWD will be responsible for the financing. No upfront cash is needed from the homeowner. Property owners pay a bill similar to other utilities such as electric and telephone.

How Much will it Cost?

- The assessment per property will not exceed \$18,000 including the private property tie-in work and can be amortized over 40 years.