



BARNSTABLE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
SUPERIOR COURT HOUSE
POST OFFICE BOX 427
BARNSTABLE, MA 02630

Phone: (508) 375-6614
FAX: (508) 362-2603
Website: barnstablecountyhealth.org

April 29, 2015

George Loomis
Research and Extension Soil Scientist
Director, New England Onsite Wastewater Training Center
University of Rhode Island
001C Coastal Institute Bldg., NRS Dept.
1 Greenhouse Rd., Kingston, RI 02881

Dear George;

As you know, our jurisdiction of Cape Cod is a 60 mile long environmentally-fragile peninsula extending into the Atlantic Ocean on which > 95% of our wastewater is treated in onsite septic systems. We are keenly aware of our vulnerabilities to effects of severe weather events as well as long term climate changes. We whole-heartedly support your research efforts concerning the various interactions of onsite septic systems with the soils, hydrology, and climate. The research is paramount to our understanding of the potential issues surrounding groundwater impacts resulting from climate changes and extreme weather events so that we might anticipate these impacts during review of policy or regulation changes and response.

If anyone has any questions relative to our endorsement of this needed research, please feel free to have them contact me.

Sincerely,

George Heufelder, M.S., R.S.
Director
Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment