

---

## Fw: Sewage Disposal Working Group - Nitrogen & Environment

---

**From** Dickson, Audra <Audra.Dickson@ct.gov>

**Date** Thu 11/13/2025 9:38 AM

**To** Jones, Lauren <Lauren.Jones@ct.gov>; Salazar, April <April.Salazar@ct.gov>

**Cc** Daha, Antoanela <Antoanela.Daha@ct.gov>; Donahue, Abigail <Abigail.Donahue@ct.gov>; Maisonet, Kiana <Kiana.Maisonet@ct.gov>; Edwards, Steve <Steve.Edwards@ct.gov>

 1 attachment (163 KB)

2025-11-13 CT\_DEEP\_Water\_Quality\_and\_Septic\_Program\_Summary\_AHD.pdf;

Good morning,

I'm sharing the information I previously provided to the legislative working groups to ensure consistent communication across teams. There is a lot going on regarding subsurface systems and their impacts to CT.

I've also requested that they not contact individual staff directly for information. Please let me know if anyone reaches out to you directly so we can coordinate responses through the appropriate channels.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regard,

Audra Dickson  
Director  
Water Permitting & Enforcement Division  
Materials Management & Compliance Assurance Bureau  
Environmental Quality Branch  
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127  
P: 860.424.3056 | E: [audra.dickson@ct.gov](mailto:audra.dickson@ct.gov)



---

*Conserving, improving, and protecting our natural resources and environment;  
Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.*

 | [portal.ct.gov/DEEP](https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP)

---

**From:** Dickson, Audra <Audra.Dickson@ct.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 13, 2025 9:27 AM

**To:** Kolakowski, Piotr <Piotr.Kolakowski@cga.ct.gov>; Bartolomeo, Riley <Riley.Bartolomeo@cga.ct.gov>; CTNAccount <CTNAccount@cga.ct.gov>; David Potts <DPotts@geomatrixllc.com>; gmattus@crahd.net <gmattus@crahd.net>; Haas, Leah <Leah.Haas@cga.ct.gov>; jperras <jperras@hbact.org>; Kapij, Trenton <Trenton.Kapij@cga.ct.gov>; Lippencott, Adam <Adam.Lippencott@cga.ct.gov>; Mackinnon, Brianne <Brianne.Mackinnon@cga.ct.gov>; Pawlik, Matthew <Matthew.Pawlik@ct.gov>; Stuart J Fairbank <almgps-sjf@snet.net>; alicea <alicea@riversalliance.org>; melancor@dymarinc.com <melancor@dymarinc.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Sewage Disposal Working Group - Nitrogen & Environment

Dear Members of the Legislative Workgroup,

Thank you for organizing yesterday's meeting and for inviting George to share his insights with the group. The discussion on onsite subsurface systems was informative.

While the team has not yet had the opportunity to review the data prepared by DEEP, I believe it will serve as a valuable resource to support the group's ongoing discussions. You can access the folder and document here: ☐  
[Subsurface & Ground Water Program](#)

To assist the group with identifying groundwater water quality models, state planning documents regarding onsite systems, recently published studies regarding nitrogen attenuation from these systems, and state partners working on nitrogen issues, I've compiled a summary of key DEEP and partner programs related to water quality, septic system management, and their statutory origins.

---

## Summary of the Attached Document – CT DEEP Water Quality and Septic Program Overview

The document, while not all of the resources or partners, provides a concise reference to Connecticut's major water quality programs and legislative authorities relevant to onsite wastewater and subsurface systems. There is already a substantial amount of information and research available on the impacts of septic systems and their relationship to water quality here in CT. Much of the foundational data and analysis already exists across DEEP and partner programs.

I recommend beginning your review with the studies and references listed starting at item number 9 in the attached document. These provide a strong technical and regulatory basis for understanding the role of septic systems in groundwater and surface water protection. I realize this is a large amount of information to review, and the group has limited time. To make it easier to navigate, I'd be happy to demonstrate how to use Google Notebook (NotebookLM) — a tool that can help condense key points, summarize long documents, and highlight the specific information we're looking for.

NotebookLM allows you to upload documents or link to online resources, and it will generate summaries, topic overviews, and question-based insights to streamline the review process. It's an efficient way for the group to focus on relevant details without having to read through everything in full.

### Highlights Include:

- **Water Quality Standards & Mapping:** Interactive DEEP classification maps showing groundwater classes (GA, GAA, GB) and their implications for septic suitability, authorized under CGS §22a-426 and the Clean Water Act.
- **Town-Level Water Quality Fact Sheets:** DEEP resources summarizing impaired waters and watershed designations under CWA §§305(b) and 303(d).

- **Nitrogen Control and Long Island Sound TMDL:** Joint CT/NY program under CWA §303(d) and §303(e) addressing nitrogen loads, including contributions from septic systems in coastal basins.
- **Connecticut State Water Plan (Public Act 14-163):** Establishes integrated management across supply, wastewater, and ecological systems, identifying septic management as critical to groundwater quality.
- **2024 Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Plan:** Connecticut's strategy under CWA §319(b) to address nonpoint pollution—including septic-derived nitrogen, phosphorus, and pathogens.
- **Watershed Management Plans:** Site-specific pollutant reduction and restoration strategies recommending septic BMPs and advanced treatment systems.
- **Regional Coordination Resources:** NEIWPCC's Long Island Sound TMDL Hub and the Long Island Sound Partnership's 2025 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan promoting septic upgrades, retrofits, and education.

---

These resources collectively show how Connecticut's water quality protection, nonpoint management, and nitrogen reduction programs intersect with septic system oversight—providing a strong foundation for the subgroup's ongoing evaluation of advanced treatment systems and housing density considerations.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regard,

Audra Dickson  
Director  
Water Permitting & Enforcement Division  
Materials Management & Compliance Assurance Bureau  
Environmental Quality Branch  
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127  
P: 860.424.3056 | E: [audra.dickson@ct.gov](mailto:audra.dickson@ct.gov)



---

*Conserving, improving, and protecting our natural resources and environment;  
Ensuring a clean, affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply.*

     | [portal.ct.gov/DEEP](https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP)

---

**From:** Kolakowski, Piotr

**Sent:** Monday, November 3, 2025 2:02 PM

**To:** Kolakowski, Piotr <[Piotr.Kolakowski@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Piotr.Kolakowski@cga.ct.gov)>; Dickson, Audra <[Audra.Dickson@ct.gov](mailto:Audra.Dickson@ct.gov)>; Bartolomeo, Riley <[Riley.Bartolomeo@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Riley.Bartolomeo@cga.ct.gov)>; CTNAccount <[CTNAccount@cga.ct.gov](mailto:CTNAccount@cga.ct.gov)>; David Potts <[DPotts@geomatrixllc.com](mailto:DPotts@geomatrixllc.com)>; gmattus@crahd.net <[gmattus@crahd.net](mailto:gmattus@crahd.net)>; Haas, Leah <[Leah.Haas@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Leah.Haas@cga.ct.gov)>; jperras <[jperras@hbact.org](mailto:jperras@hbact.org)>; Kapij, Trenton <[Trenton.Kapij@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Trenton.Kapij@cga.ct.gov)>; Lippencott, Adam <[Adam.Lippencott@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Adam.Lippencott@cga.ct.gov)>; Mackinnon, Brianne <[Brianne.Mackinnon@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Brianne.Mackinnon@cga.ct.gov)>; Pawlik, Matthew <[Matthew.Pawlik@ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Pawlik@ct.gov)>; Stuart J Fairbank <[almgps-sjf@snet.net](mailto:almgps-sjf@snet.net)>; alicea <[alicea@riversalliance.org](mailto:alicea@riversalliance.org)>;

melancor@dymarinc.com <melancor@dymarinc.com>

**Subject:** Sewage Disposal Working Group - Nitrogen & Environment

**When:** Wednesday, November 12, 2025 9:00 AM-11:00 AM.

**Where:** <https://zoom.us/j/96423519978?pwd=IXR6EP6SB5My6EyzeygtumbFs8AxxO.1>

Piotr Kolakowski is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96423519978?pwd=IXR6EP6SB5My6EyzeygtumbFs8AxxO.1>

Meeting ID: 964 2351 9978

Passcode: 512316

---

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,96423519978# US (Washington DC)

+13052241968,,96423519978# US

Join instructions

[https://zoom.us/join/96423519978/invitations?signature=\\_jO6V5a9-bfeN263DQETtpjpD71bEOGF1Rdubdo81x0](https://zoom.us/join/96423519978/invitations?signature=_jO6V5a9-bfeN263DQETtpjpD71bEOGF1Rdubdo81x0)