

Title: Evaluation of Alternative Treatment Schemes to  
Replace Failing Septic Systems

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Objective:

To investigate the administrative, financial, legal and economic considerations in implementing alternative treatment schemes to replace failing on-lot septic systems.

Procedures:

This research will build upon current research directed by the principal investigators into alternative treatment schemes to replace failing septic systems. The current research is focusing on the technical aspects of the alternative treatment schemes.

Since several of the schemes involve multiple discharges and yet are sub-municipal in scope new legal, financial and administrative arrangements will need to be developed before they could be implemented.

The proposed research will prepare a thorough cost analysis of proposed alternative treatment schemes including both total annual costs and the distribution of such costs among the parties involved. Institutional arrangements necessary to assure adequate maintenance, monitoring, upgrading, replacement, etc., will be developed. Alternative roles of the state (DWPC) will be presented and discussed. Experiences with similar arrangements in other states will be utilized extensively as well as innovative concepts appropriate to Massachusetts conditions.

Results:

The research should result in the specification of the institutional arrangements most likely to work in Massachusetts settings for the implementation of alternative treatment schemes to replace failing on-lot septic systems. These will be documented in a final report format with special attention given to prescriptions for implementing the most promising arrangements.

Cost: \$15K