

Orangetown DWSP2 Committee Meeting #8

Meeting Notes

07/15/2025

Notes on Project Profile 1 (Septic System Database):

- Add an educational component to the project
 - How to maintain septic systems, share funding resources
- Send out information quarterly and/or biannual to those in the database
 - Include information on who to contact if they have questions
- Update the budget line to include mailers
- End goal would be to get everyone who can be on sewer on to sewer
- There are two sewer fees in the Town of Orangetown – everyone pays the sewer debt, but only those on sewer pay the operation and maintenance fee.
- If a septic system is failing, the owner will go to the Health Department for a new septic permit. If they have the ability to connect to sewer, the Health Department will not issue them a new permit for septic and they will be connected to sewer.

Notes on Project Profile 2 (Intermunicipal Coordination):

- The Rockland Water Taskforce will be starting a Communications Subcommittee near the end of 2025, beginning of 2026
 - This could be a good space to hold the meetings discussed in this section to ensure we are not duplicating efforts
- Not a lot of power individually but have more as a group. If it makes sense in the future a goal could be to work towards an intermunicipal agreement
- Ramapo River Watershed Intermunicipal Council: Janice Burnett was instrumental in getting it going. Did some good work on getting reverse osmosis treatment

Notes on Project Profile 3 (Public Education):

- Rockland County has a Water Taskforce map that integrates USGS work (Heisig). The interactive map has fractures and flow directions listed.
- Pfizer is sitting on an aquifer that is under the influence of the brooks in that area.
- Water Quantity should be included in the educational outreach section
 - Information on where recharge areas are
- How should we consider run off into Lake Tappan and New Jersey's water supply?
- Informational pieces should have an explanation of direct effects on drinking water, public health, and the environment

Notes on Project Profile 4 (Aquifer Overlay District):

- Veolia would be a good collaborator on this.
 - Bill Perota is their hydrogeologist, and he knows the system and its history
- Will discuss this more in the next meeting.