

Sewer Assessment Technical Advisory Committee - 2008

The Sewer Assessment Technical Advisory Committee continued to investigate the suitability of several parcels of land for subsurface disposal of treated wastewater. Expanding on previous year's search for parcels, the committee reviewed all parcels south of Route 27 and north of Route 20 (both private and public), and has begun to focus on three town-owned parcels of land for further soil investigation. However, soil testing has been put on hold until a more public process occurs.

The committee supported a grant application by the Smart Growth Alliance to the Royal Bank of Canada to conduct a pilot program for "spot sewerage" (also known as decentralized treatment) in New England communities, which would have featured Sudbury as a case study. Unfortunately, the grant was not funded. The committee is currently reviewing another grant proposal in partnership with the Charles River Watershed Association to the Sudbury Foundation to conduct a similar "spot sewerage" analysis in Sudbury. The funds would be used to complete a study that would identify land within the town which is critical to long-term environmental sustainability, identify land appropriate for wastewater effluent recharge, and assess water balances within the town to determine current impacts and their resolution. The data collected and analysis provided would be used to educate the public and landowners of the importance of finding a solution to the Town's wastewater problems. The results of the grant award will be known in March 2009.

Once the study is completed, soil investigation will occur on any parcels deemed suitable by the study.

The Sewer Assessment Citizen's Advisory Committee has been indefinitely suspended, pending the outcome of the search for a suitable potential location in Town for the subsurface disposal of treated wastewater.

Submitted by: Route 20 Sewer Assessment Technical Advisory Committee