

Eagle Lake/ Chilson Gooseneck water

From: rolf tiedemann (camptouchstone@yahoo.com)

To: camptouchstone@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, January 23, 2023 at 01:38 PM EST

I received the information/ images, attached below (11 pages) and duplicated in the attached pdf document today, they relate to the EL Rt. 74 water issue. If you want to follow a link in the images you need to open the PDF file, links do not work from images.

I took a quick look at the Towns website noted on the last page of the newsletter to see if any of this information was available to be linked- I found nothing.

the link is here so you can access it for your own review.

[Eagle Lake – Chilson Water System Improvements - Town of Ticonderoga](#)



Another resident shared the following image related to funding sources early last week.

http://eaglelake1.org/archives/communications/2020-2029/2023/IMG_7483%20grant%20for%20well%20engineering.jpg

This information is shared as a courtesy by the ELPOI. Use it as you wish. Sorry if this is a duplicate to what you have already received and if it is not applicable to your dwelling, our data base is not set up to discriminate those on or off of the water system.

ELPOI Members and residents,

January 23, 2023

The following information was shared with me regarding EL's Rt. 74 water- I received it on 1-22-2023.

- A three-page letter from the Town of Ticonderoga
- An insert page "guide to Gooseneck Pond Water..."
- Two 3-fold pamphlets "...Wells", and "...Surface Water"

Please note:

1. That this letter looks to be resident specific, see large oval #1 on next page for address of specific person letter was sent to. Even though they do refer in the opening statement as resident"s" small oval #2. And then go on to say "your" in oval #3. I talked with 2 other lake residents in putting this together and they DID NOT receive any communications. Your receipt and communications may be different. Refer back to the last several sentences in the ELPOI winter newsletter, where it was reported "that the town would be sending to ALL residents"
2. The person that asked me to share this also wanted to have the letter post mark date (image below), letter receipt date oval #4, and "survey" return date oval #5 highlighted. They thought that this was a very short turnaround time and with only limited information.
3. The sharing person also asked about the statement in oval#6 as to what was supposed to be "attached for figures" as there appears to be no cost figures shared.
4. I checked the Town's website listed on the last page of the letter for any of this information, to make sharing easier, and nothing was listed.

I/we the ELPOI are sharing this as a courtesy. Decisions/ actions related to the EL Rt. 74 water are NOT part of the ELPOI's mission. Sorry, our data base does not allow discrimination from those affected by this and those not on Gooseneck water. All prior communications related to this topic and others associated with conducting business for ELPOI can be found here: <http://eaglelake1.org/html/archives/communications.shtml>

If you got a different letter, or no letter, and want to share information related to this feel free to reply and I will forward it as time in my schedule allows. For specific questions and comments direct them to the Town or to your neighbors.

Rolf



Town of Ticonderoga

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132 Montcalm Street, P.O. Box 471, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 - TDD 711

Town Council
Dave Woods
Joyce Cooper

Town Council
Tom Thatcher
Tom Cunningham

January 19th, 2023

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[Redacted]

Re: Drinking Water Supply for Current Chilson-Eagle Lake Drinking Water Users
22 Route 74
13 -18,000

1

2

Dear Fellow Residents:

As you are aware, the Town of Ticonderoga entered into a Consent Decree with the US Department of Justice on July 11, 2018. Pursuant to the Consent Decree, the Gooseneck Pond drinking water source that currently supplies water to the users of the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas will be discontinued indefinitely as of **June 24, 2025**. This means that drinking water supply for Chilson and Eagle Lake areas from Gooseneck Pond will likely be discontinued, at the latest, during the Summer or Fall of 2024. The Town of Ticonderoga has been working diligently alongside the Town's engineers for many years to find a solution to provide public water to the users of the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas following the discontinued use of Gooseneck Pond.

Town staff and the Town's Engineers have performed both a desktop and field study of the parcels in the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas. The studies were used to collect additional information pertaining to potential drinking water sources for each individual parcel. Based on separation distances from potential sources of contamination, the Town and their Engineers have possible options for parcels in the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas. Options evaluated included drilling a private well, withdrawing surface water from Eagle Lake to be treated by an in-home treatment system for use, drilling a common well shared amongst no more than four homes, or being connected to either the existing municipal system or a new smaller municipal system using a well as a source.

Does My Property Support a Well?

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Based on the results of the preliminary studies performed, **your parcel may be suited for a well, access to Eagle Lake and/or a common well which would be part of a water district to be formed, and then administered by the Town.** There are roughly 20 parcels near Eagle Lake that fall into this potential category, and thus could, if approvable as part of a district, be part of a municipal water solution. However, there are considerations that you, as the property owner, and fellow property owners near you, need to consider in evaluating this option. This letter is intended to provide information so that you can contemplate and respond with your thoughts, so that we can collectively proceed accordingly.

It is expected that your primary concerns may be quality of water and cost. That is reasonable. The issue is, without knowing who is going to participate in the water district solution, costs cannot be finalized. Thus, the costs that you might see below are based on significant assumptions that are also discussed below. In addition, we are providing information on alternatives that have been sent to many drinking water users in the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas. Any water used will be thoroughly tested prior to use to meet NYS Drinking Water Standards.

This is an Equal Opportunity Program. Discrimination is prohibited by Federal Law. Complaints of discrimination may be filed with USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Bldg., 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410

What are My Potential Water Source Options?

First, we will note some of the other 'options'. Alternate water sources that have been identified are private wells and for users near Eagle Lake, surface water from Eagle Lake. Those options are noted below:

1. Wells - Enclosed is an information pamphlet discussing private wells. Many properties in the Chilson and Eagle Lake area have sufficient size in terms of acreage and setbacks from other matters (other wells, septic systems, etc.) to be able to drill private wells.
 - a. Why might you choose the municipal system over a private well? Factors such as the size of your parcel, setbacks from your neighbor's parcels, or septic systems, or wetlands, etc. may make it difficult to drill a well and meet regulatory requirements.
 - b. PLEASE NOTE: You may be able to consult, on your own, with a well driller who with expertise may be able to drill a well on your property. Or, you and a couple of your neighbors might be able to get together to drill and share a well. Note that there are New York State limits as to how many properties can share a well without that arrangement requiring additional approvals and perhaps a water district. However, you are certainly permitted to explore this option and if this option works for you, or for you and some of your neighbors, and is affordable and acceptable to you, you should pursue that.
2. Surface water - Enclosed is an information pamphlet discussing the use of surface water, as well as treatment options that some may be able to use. The main surface water is out at Eagle Lake. Properties adjoining Eagle Lake can generally take water from Eagle Lake.
 - a. Why might you chose the municipal system over access to Eagle Lake? You may need an easement from a property adjoining the lake for you to run a water line under the property adjoining the lake, and possibly under NYS Route 74, which would require DOT approvals. That is no small task, but perhaps is an option. If that is something you want to pursue, we encourage you to do so.

What Factors into My Cost?

As to cost, noted above there are roughly 20 parcels near Eagle Lake. For purposes of the figures in the attached "potential district" figures, the Town has included the following assumptions:

- a. That all 20 parcels would be included. Of course, if some or many parcels do not proceed with this option, then that can impact the cost to anyone who does.
- b. That the Town would be able to obtain funding from the NYS Environmental Facilities Corp. Please note that this funding is NOT confirmed as of the sending of this letter.
- c. The figures are very, very preliminary. That is, the engineering work that has been put into this effort is NOT to the level that would, for example, result in a district. Thus, actual field surveying, design work, fine-tuning of operation and maintenance (O&M) costs, etc. would need to be compiled IF a water district were to proceed.
- d. Thus, you might note that these are very, very significant assumptions. This is noted because until the actual number of users is confirmed, and until actual construction costs and O&M costs can be calculated, the Town cannot tell you with certainty what these costs are actually going to be.

How Do I Make a Decision?

The Town understands completely that the lack of absolute clarity here makes your decision as to "what to do" very difficult. However, the Town has gone to great lengths, and great expense, to obtain and provide the information included with this correspondence in an effort to assist with this decision.

Please understand that this letter is ONLY meant to provide homeowners with what is believed to be a **potential** option for their parcel. It is ultimately your decision as the property owner to implement the water source which you feel best fits your needs. Thus, this information is intended to be information only and not any determination by the Town or its Engineers as to a specific water supply for your property. Significant additional effort and information would be needed to arrive at property specific recommendations.

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Lastly, the Town continues to seek funding to assist homeowners with private drinking water sources. To date the Town has not secured funding in this regard, but significant efforts will continue.

PLEASE NOTE, that it is anticipated that disconnections from the Gooseneck Pond water source will start in 2024. It is therefore imperative that you as a homeowner begin implementation of a new water source as soon as possible. All users must be disconnected from the Gooseneck Pond source by June 24, 2025.

Additional information regarding the Chilson and Eagle Lake Water System Improvements project can be found on the Town of Ticonderoga's public website: <https://www.townofticonderoga.org/eagle-lake-chilson-water-system-improvements/>.

What are My Response Options?

With all the above information, unfortunately this matter is at a point where the Town needs a "go or no-go" answer from the water users. We are asking that all users respond to this letter on or before **January 27, 2023** as to the following questions:

I/we have reviewed the information contained in this letter and have decided that:

- a. I will proceed to obtain my own private water solution. I understand that this means that the Town will be contacting me sometime in early 2024 to coordinate the disconnection of my property from the Gooseneck Pond water supply.
- b. I am requesting that my property be included in a municipal water district. I understand that this means that I will be provided information in the future as to the costs of such a district, as well as the district formation process.

PLEASE NOTE THAT A WATER DISTRICT IS NOT GUARANTEED. What this means is that if insufficient numbers of water users respond such that a water district is not feasible, then the default is that individual property owners will be required to find private water solutions regardless of the circumstances.

In addition, it is noted that property owners can, themselves, advance the formation of a water district which may include your property regardless of your decision above. That topic has been discussed at length in meetings and information is available on the Town's website on this topic.

When Should I Reply to the Town?

IF THE TOWN DOES NOT RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM YOU ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 27, 2023, THE TOWN WILL PROCEED WITH THE ASSUMPTION THAT YOU ARE MAKING YOUR OWN PLANS FOR PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY. In that regard, unless a water district petition process includes your property, the Town will undertake no further efforts to find alternate drinking water supply. This would be confirmed with you after January 27, 2023.

This has been an extremely difficult situation and we appreciate everyone's continued efforts. Thank you.

Town Board,
Town of Ticonderoga



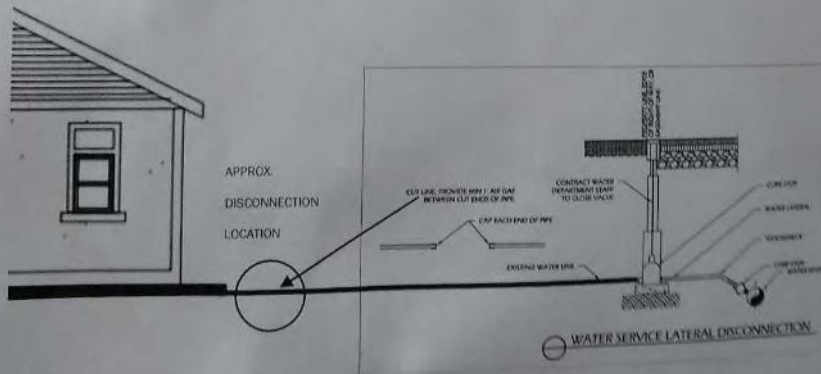
CHILSON AND EAGLE LAKE HOMEOWNERS

Guide to Gooseneck Pond Water Source Disconnection



The Town of Ticonderoga has compiled a checklist of steps to properly disconnect your home from the Gooseneck Pond water source. Homes that are properly disconnected prior to the end of the billing cycle (the first week of the last month of the calendar quarter) will not be billed for the following quarter. As a reminder, the Gooseneck Pond water source will be abandoned in summer or fall of 2024 regardless of your disconnection status.

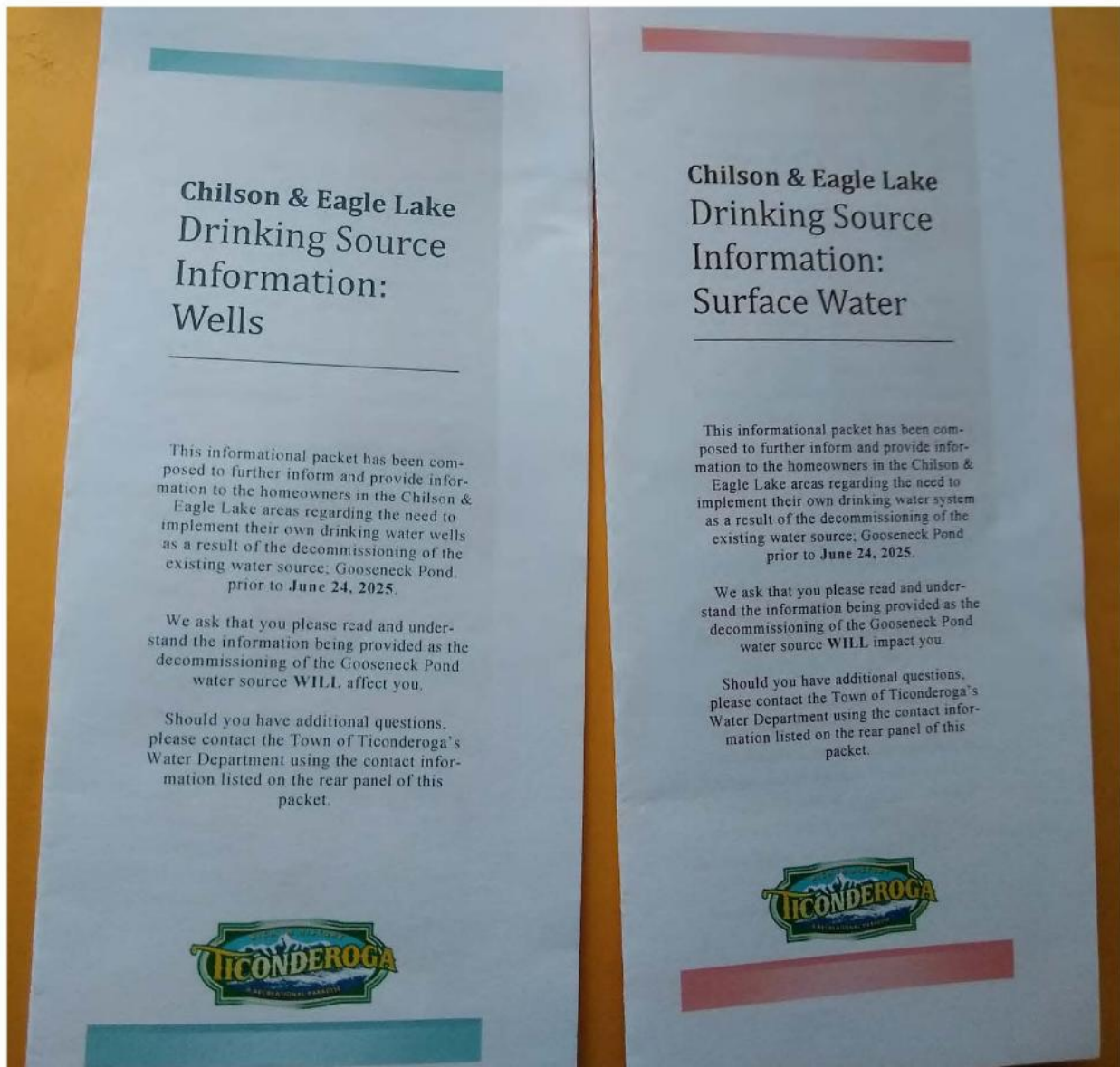
- 1. Contact a Well Driller, Treatment System Installer, or Contractor
 - For those homeowners who wish to install a private well, contact a registered water well driller for pricing and schedule.
 - For those homeowners who wish to install a surface water withdrawal and treatment system, contact a treatment system supplier/installer for pricing and schedule.
 - Keep in mind that the installation of both systems may also require the work of a general contractor. Contact a general contractor for pricing and schedule.
- 2. Complete the Permitting Process
 - Complete all necessary permit applications and submit to applicable regulatory agencies.
 - Address any comments or concerns regulatory agencies may have regarding your project.
 - Receive all permits from all applicable regulatory agencies.
- 3. Construct/Implement New Drinking Water Source
 - Complete the construction and implementation of your new drinking water source, treatment system, etc.
 - Connect new drinking water source to dwelling.
- 4. Disconnection of Gooseneck Pond Water Source at Curb Stop
 - Disconnect from the Gooseneck Pond water source, detail provided below for general guidance.
 - Disconnect should occur as close in proximity to the outside of the home as possible.



- 5. Notify the Town of Your Disconnection
 - Notify the Town of your disconnection prior to backfilling your disconnection.
 - A Town employee will conduct an inspection of the disconnection and log necessary information

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Additional information from the pamphlets is attached below. They are color keyed "wells" in light blue and "surface water" in salmon

Please note: to the best of my knowledge EL has never been tested for or approved for use as a source of drinking water, this is unlike Lake George where it is routine to pull lake water for use in a residence and there is restriction of lake use that make this possible.

Project Information

The Town of Ticonderoga entered into Consent Decree with the US Department of Justice on July 11, 2018. Pursuant to the Consent Decree, the Gooseneck Pond drinking water source that currently supplies water to the users of the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas will be discontinued as of June 24, 2025. To comply with this deadline, the Gooseneck Pond water source will likely be discontinued at the latest, summer or fall of 2024. The Town of Ticonderoga has worked with the Town's Engineers to complete both a desktop and field study of to provide additional information regarding options for individual drinking water sources for homeowners in Chilson and Eagle Lake. Options may include drilling a private well, withdrawing surface water from Eagle Lake to be treated by an in-home treatment system for use, drilling a common well shared amongst no more than four homes, or being connected to either the existing municipal system or a new smaller municipal system using a well as a source.

This pamphlet is intended to provide information for property owners who elect to implement a surface water source. Should you choose this option, you should immediately start preparing as there may be State permitting to complete. It is imperative to begin the process NOW to allow for time to implement a surface water source and lead time of equipment prior to the discontinuance of the Gooseneck Water Source.

Regulatory

NYSDOT

Parcels on the South side of Route 74 may need to construct a water line that crosses the road in order to withdraw from Eagle Lake. A NYSDOT highway work permit may need to be obtained prior to construction. Additional information regarding permitting requirements can be found at: <https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/operations/sections/transportation-systems/traffic-operations-sections/highway-permits/utility-permits>

NYSDEC

The implementation of a permanent water intake may be subject to the Article 15 Protection of Water Permitting Requirements. A joint application may be completed and submitted to NYSDEC, USACE, NYSOGS, and NYSDOS for approval prior to construction of your intake. Additional information regarding permitting requirements can be found at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6042.html>

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER
PERMIT TO TAKE WATER FROM A LAKE, STREAM, RIVER, OR OTHER WATER BODY

APPLICANT INFORMATION
PROJECT INFORMATION
PERMIT INFORMATION

Installers

There are a number of companies that both sell and install residential water treatment systems. A majority of companies will also, for a fee, deliver chemicals and assist in the long-term maintenance of your treatment system. This service is often utilized in order to best maintain treatment equipment.

Be mindful that installers typically only install the treatment system, not the raw water intake or associated water line. A contractor may need to be hired for this portion of the installation.

COSTS

INSTALLATION

The cost of installing a raw water intake and drinking water treatment system will vary significantly from parcel to parcel. A number of factors need to be accounted for such as distance to the lake, level of treatment desired, location relative to the lake (road crossing), etc.

For the most accurate costs associated with the installation of a raw water intake and drinking water treatment system, contact a system installer or contractor.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Operations and maintenance costs will vary based on the drinking water treatment system selected. For the most accurate costs associated with operations and maintenance of your selected system, contact a system installer.

Common Treatment System Components

Prior to the selection of equipment, an ambient water sample should be analyzed to decide which equipment best suits the treatment needs of the water from Eagle Lake. The following equipment is typically used to treat surface water for the use in residential homes.

- Please be reminded that these are not the only treatment options.

Basic Filtration removes impurities such as sediment and silt.

Chlorination disinfects the water by killing bacteria, viruses, and other microbes.

Detention Reaction Tank allows for chlorine and water contact time during the chlorination process to kill bacteria, viruses, and other microbes.

Dechlorination removes residual chlorine from the disinfected water prior to use or consumption.

Ultra-Filtration (UF) is a membrane technology used to remove solid debris at a microscopic level. Because of its fine micron reduction capacity, UF has the ability to filter out fine sediment, chlorine, and cysts.



Decommissioning of Existing Public Water

The Town of Ticonderoga kindly asks homeowners to notify the Town of Ticonderoga's Water Department once their new source has been implemented. The water department will need to properly decommission existing connections to the Gooseneck Pond prior to June 24, 2025. Be aware, disconnection from Gooseneck Pond may take place in late 2024 to meet the required decommissioning deadline.

Town of Ticonderoga Water Department

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Funding

The Town of Ticonderoga will continue to seek funding opportunities to assist homeowners in the Chilson and Eagle Lake areas. The Town will notify all homeowners immediately if funding becomes available. The Town of Ticonderoga appreciates your continued efforts during this extremely difficult situation.

Chilson & Eagle Lake Drinking Source Information: Surface Water

This informational packet has been composed to further inform and provide information to the homeowners in the Chilson & Eagle Lake areas regarding the need to implement their own drinking water system as a result of the decommissioning of the existing water source, Gooseneck Pond prior to **June 24, 2025**.

We ask that you please read and understand the information being provided as the decommissioning of the Gooseneck Pond water source **WILL** impact you.

Should you have additional questions, please contact the Town of Ticonderoga's Water Department using the contact information listed on the rear panel of this packet.



Types of Wells

Dug/Bored Wells are holes in the ground dug by shovel or backhoe. They are lined (cased) with stones, brick tile, or other material to prevent collapse. Dug wells have a large diameter, are shallow (10-30 ft deep) and are not cased continuously.

Driven Wells are constructed by driving pipe into the ground. Driven wells are cased continuously and are shallow (30-50 ft deep). Though driven wells are cased, they can be contaminated easily because they draw water from aquifers near the surface.

Drilled Wells are constructed by percussion or rotary-drilling machines.

Drilled wells can be thousands of feet deep and require the installation of casing.

Drilled wells have a lower risk of contamination due to their depth and use of continuous casing.



Decommissioning of Existing Public Water

The Town of Ticonderoga kindly asks homeowners to notify the Town of Ticonderoga's Water Department once their new well has been installed. The water department will need to properly decommission existing connections to the Goosenek Pond source prior to June 24, 2025. Be aware, disconnection from Goosenek Pond may take place in later 2024 to meet the required decommissioning deadline.

Town of Ticonderoga Water Department

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Funding

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Should you have additional questions, please contact the Town of Ticonderoga's Water Department using the contact information listed on the rear panel of this packet.



Project Information

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This pamphlet is intended to provide information for property owners who elect to implement a private well source. Should you choose this option, you should immediately start preparing as there are potentially over 100 wells in the area that will need to be installed in the next two years. It is imperative to begin the process NOW to allow for time to implement a well prior to the discontinuance of the Gooseneck Water Source.

Setback Distances

Part 5, Subpart 5-1 Standards for Water Wells - Appendix 5-B requires the following separation distances from drinking wells:

- Seepage Pit: 150 ft
- Absorption (Leach or Tile) Field or Bed: 100 ft
- Septic Tank, Enhanced Treatment Unit, Watertight Effluent Line to Distribution Box: 50 ft
- Sanitary (public) or Combined Sewer: 50 ft
- Stream, Lake, Watercourse, Drainage Ditch, or Wetland: 25 ft

*Deviations from the required separation distances may only be allowed at the discretion of the NYSDOH in accordance with a waiver issued pursuant to Part 75 of Title 10, or a variance issued pursuant to Subpart 5-2 of Title 10, or a written approval issued by the NYSDOH prior to December 1, 2005, or a written approval granted by a local health department pursuant to a local sanitary code.

For additional information from NYSDOH pertaining to Private Wells visit:

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/private_wells.htm

Common / Shared Wells

The Town of Ticonderoga's Engineers have also evaluated those parcels of which do not have sufficient setback distances based on the criteria set forth above. A potential solution for these parcels is a shared or common well amongst neighboring houses. Generally under NY law no more than 4 properties can be connected to a common well without additional legal requirements and complexities. If more than four houses are connected to a single source, the system becomes a public water supply of which additional requirements need to be implemented in order to meet NYSDOH regulations. The benefit to sharing a well with neighboring parcels is the reduction in cost of construction and operations and maintenance as it is expected costs will be shared amongst the users. If your property falls into this category, you are encouraged to consult with a well driller and if further assistance is needed with documents, please contact the town.

Well Drillers Contact Information

A complete list of registered Water Well Contractors can be found here: <https://www.doc.ny.gov/cdmx/exchange/WaterWell/index.cfm?view=mainnav12>

Water Well Contractor - Search Wizard

This wizard will allow you to search for registered Water Well Contractors. Registered Contractors can operate in all counties of NY.

These fields are required. Please enter a registered Water Well Contractor name or NY Well ID number to begin search.

Search by Registration Number:

OR

Search by Special District Name:

OR

Search By County and Well Service:

Costs

INSTALLATION

The cost of installing a private drinking well will vary significantly from parcel to parcel. A number of factors need to be accounted for such as distance from the dwelling, depth of the well, location of setbacks, etc.

For the most accurate costs associated with the installation of a private drinking well, contact a Registered Water Well Contractor.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Operations and maintenance costs will vary amongst parcels. For the most accurate costs associated with operations and maintenance of your private drinking well, contact a Registered Water Well Contractor.

This was shared by a different resident early last week and is post to the ELPOI website at

http://eaglelake1.org/archives/communications/2020-2029/2023/IMG_7483%20grant%20for%20well%20engineering.jpg

← Mark Wright for Ticonderoga Supervisor... ●●●

Exciting news today. I was officially notified today from Congresswoman Elise Stefanik's office that our funding request for \$4 million for the Town of Ticonderoga Route 74 Neighborhood Water Source and Distribution project was passed in the recent Federal Omnibus bill. Elise Stefanik's office is working with the different agencies involved to clarify the process by which those funds will be accessed by the Town. Once they have obtained that information, they will follow up to work through the process with the town.

This is great news for which to start the new year. Congresswoman Stefanik has proven many times to be an advocate and protector for the 21st Congressional District and I cannot possibly put into words the thanks I have to her and her staff for pushing our request all the way to this point. We need funding to provide water to those who have stated they need the Town's assistance. Elise's efforts and support have the potential to fund our current Chilson/Eagle Lake private well engineering approach and solve a decades old issue.

We will see what the details look like in the ensuing months.