

# Fact Sheet

# The Town of Ledyard Water Pollution Control Authority's Wastewater Facilities Plan

## What is Ledyard's Wastewater Facilities Plan?

Ledyard's Wastewater Facilities Plan (Plan) evaluates the sewage collection and treatment needs of the entire Town for the next 20 years. Focused studies investigate wastewater disposal alternatives for the outlying, unsewered areas of Ledyard and the growing areas of the town, such as the village center.

## Why does Ledyard need a Facilities Plan?

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) requires the Town of Ledyard prepare a Wastewater Facilities Plan. CTDEEP must approve the Plan before the Town of Ledyard will be eligible for financial assistance for wastewater collection and treatment system improvements.

## Plan Recommendations

- Replace aged and outdated equipment at the Highlands Wastewater Treatment Facility at a cost of \$1.0 million.
- Construct new public sewers in Aljen Heights/Avery Hill, Gales Ferry/Christy Hill, and the Greater Ledyard Center over twenty years.
- Connect the new sewers to the Groton wastewater collection system at a capital construction cost of \$92.2 million over twenty years.
- Continue to rely on conventional onsite (septic) wastewater disposal systems, not sewers, for the majority of Ledyard.
- Adopt a town-wide onsite wastewater management program to regulate inspection, maintenance, repair and replacement of all onsite systems to ensure protection of public health and the environment.

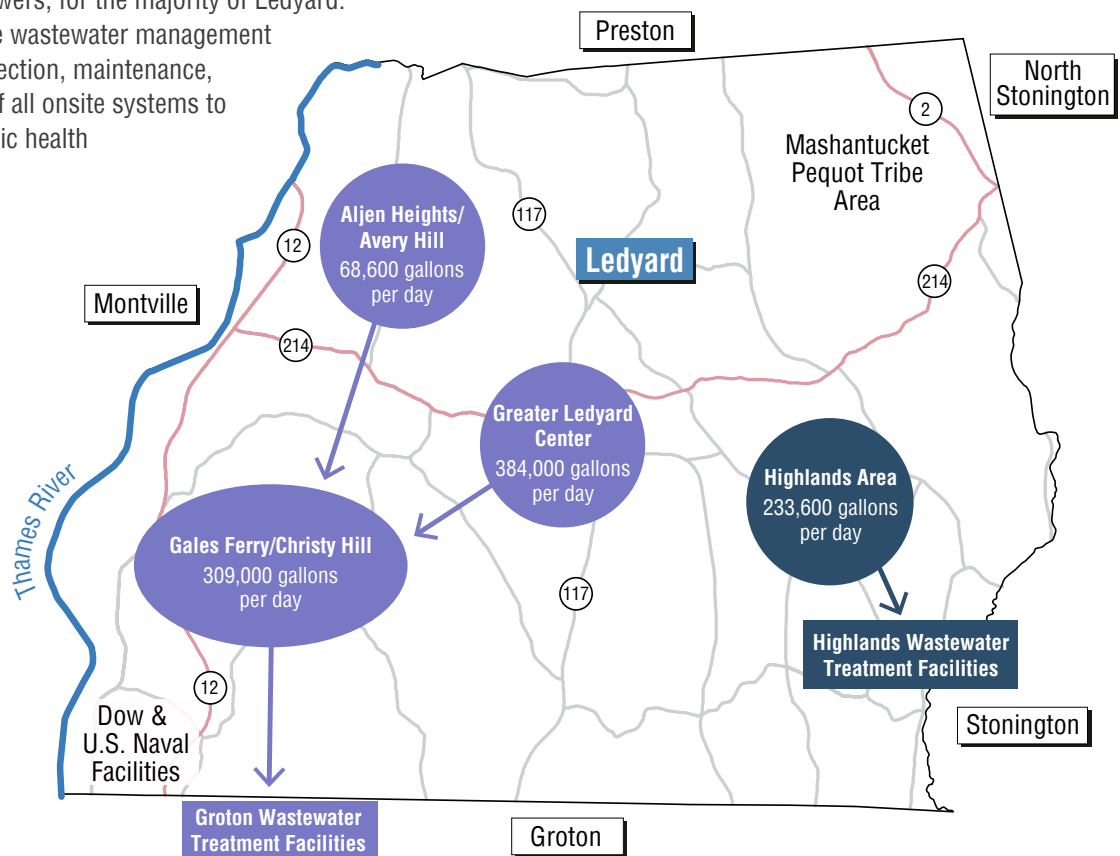
## More About Sewage Facilities in Ledyard...

The Town of Ledyard currently owns and maintains one wastewater treatment plant. The facility is known as the "Highlands" Treatment Plant which was constructed in 1962 and upgraded in 1997. Since 1986, it has been operated by the Town via the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA).

Ledyard's Highlands Treatment Plant is located in the eastern part of Town and treats approximately 160,000 gallons of sewage per day. Sewage flows from the Ledyard High School in the Highlands neighborhood to the Highlands plant for treatment.

The Highlands system includes two pump stations, five miles of gravity sewers and two miles of force mains. The Ledyard Highlands Wastewater Treatment Facility discharges to infiltration beds or to Seth Williams Brook during high flows.

In addition to the Town of Ledyard's Highland facility, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Facility has its own system which treats the Foxwoods Casino complex in the northeastern part of the Town. A private sewage treatment plant serves the Dow Chemical facilities on the Thames River. The U.S. Naval Facility in the southwest corner of Town conveys its wastewater to the Town of Groton's Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTF). Furthermore, the majority of homes and businesses in Ledyard use on-site septic systems. *(continued)*



### Where does the Facilities Plan propose improvements?

There is a two-pronged approach to the improvements recommended in the Plan. The Highlands area has sewers that connect to the Highlands WWTF, but the plant needs upgrading. There are new sewers planned in other areas of Ledyard that will send wastewater to Groton's WWTF. Most of the remaining areas of Ledyard will continue to have their own on-site/septic systems. Foxwoods, Dow and the Navy facilities will be unaffected by the Plan.

### What will it cost?

Cost of Facilities Plan Recommendations	
Highland WWTF Upgrades	\$1 million
Public sewer expansion to:	
Aljen Heights/Avery Hill	\$9.9 million
Gales Ferry/Christy Hill	\$57.0 million
Ledyard Center Area	\$25.3 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$93.2 million</b>

### Who will pay for it?

Currently there is no funding in place to implement the Ledyard Facilities Plan. However, if the CTDEEP approves the Plan, Ledyard will be eligible for State funding through CTDEEP's Clean Water Fund. Furthermore, property owners and users of the public sewer system who will benefit from the improvements will also bear some of the cost for the improvements.

### Who is responsible for developing the Facilities Plan?

In Connecticut, each municipality is responsible for planning and managing the wastewater generated within their borders. In Ledyard, this responsibility lies with the WPCA. The powers and responsibilities of the WPCA are given by Sections 7-245 to 7-273a of the Connecticut General Statutes.

## For more information about Ledyard's Facilities Plan

### Read the draft Plan.

Copies are on reserve at the following:

- The Town Clerk's office  
(741 Colonel Ledyard Highway)
- The Bill Library (718 Colonel Ledyard Highway)
- Gales Ferry Library (18 Hurlbutt Road)

### Questions?

- Contact Charlie Karno, Town Planner  
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Abandoned tanks at the Highlands WWTF will be demolished for safety reasons.