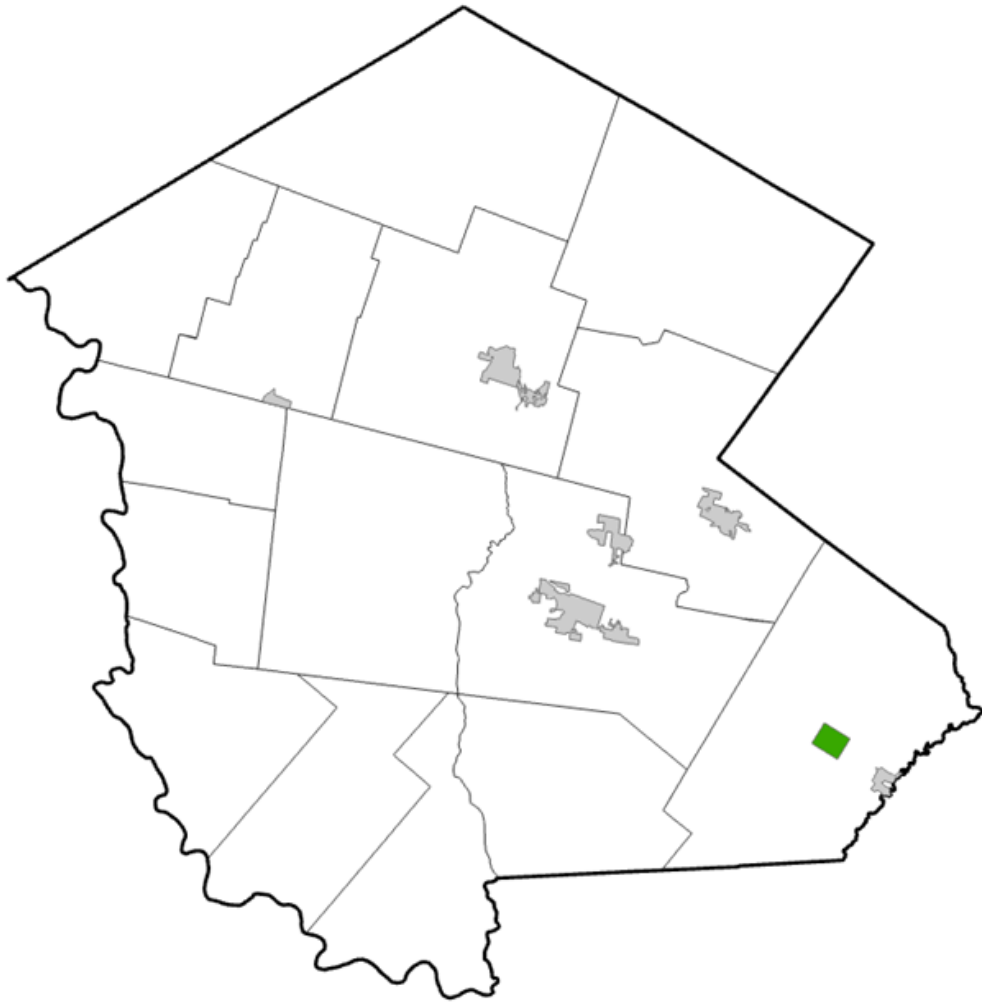




# Sullivan County Assessment of Potable & Wastewater Infrastructure

VOLUME II

## Village of Wurtsboro



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*Volumes I and II are part of a larger report.  
The full Sullivan County Assessment of Potable and  
Wastewater Infrastructure Report may be requested from the  
Sullivan County Division of Planning, Community Development and Environmental Management*

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# 1. ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

In 2025, the Sullivan County Division of Planning, Community Development, and Environmental Management (DPEM) undertook, with the support of Delaware Engineering, DPC, a project to assess water supply and wastewater management infrastructure throughout the County.

As part of that project, known as the Countywide Assessment of Potable and Wastewater Infrastructure (CAPWI), water and sewer infrastructure serving residents and businesses in each of the County's twenty-two municipalities was surveyed, inventoried, and evaluated. This document details the results of this effort and presents the information in a series of Community Reports. The CAPWI Volume 1 Report reflects the information developed within this Volume 2 Report through a series of recommended actions aimed at supporting water and sewer service county-wide, and advanced by the County.

## 1.1 Using this Document

The information is structured around inventory and evaluation of each community's water supply and wastewater management infrastructure. While emphasis is placed on municipally owned systems, the report surveys and documents other centralized and regulated decentralized water and sewer systems in the Community. Individual on-site facilities are beyond the scope of this report, though it is noted where in the County these systems are exclusively relied on. Mapping showing [service areas](#) and other key information accompanies the report. Sources and methods are also described.

The information in this volume is, in general, not at a level of detail or intended to provide analysis of system or component capacity, be used in the design of specific capital projects, provide detailed system mapping, assess or recommend specific operational techniques or strategies, or other similar activities requiring development of precise technical information and detailed engineering assessment. Instead, this volume provides an inventory and planning-level evaluation of these systems in support of policy and programmatic needs and decision making.

The Countywide Water and Sewer Evaluation and Recommendations report can be viewed by visiting the following website from DPEM.

<https://www.sullivanvny.gov/Departments/PlanningEnvironmental/PlansandStudies/CAPWI>

Individual Community Profile reports have also been prepared as part of the CAPWI project and are intended to be standalone documents that can be used by a variety of audiences,

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including municipal leaders and officials, residents, and businesses, seeking basic information about water and sewer service in the municipality.

Finally, many of the terms used have specific meanings and are further elaborated upon in a Glossary attached to this report. Terms appearing in the Glossary are denoted in underline throughout the document, and in the electronic version, you may click these terms to be taken directly to where that term appears in the Glossary.

## 1.2 Understanding the Data: Public vs. Private Infrastructure

As stated previously, the primary focus of this report is inventorying municipally owned water and sewer systems in Sullivan County. However, the community profile reports also provide limited information on privately-owned systems where relevant and publicly available. In order to understand the data presented, the reader must first have a basic understanding of the regulatory framework governing the operation of different types of water and sewer systems in New York State.

Regardless of ownership, there are two regulatory agencies that are primarily responsible for issuing permits and approvals for drinking water and wastewater systems – the New York State Department of Health ([NYSDOH](#)) and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ([NYSDEC](#)).

### 1.2.1 Public Water Systems (NYSDOH)

In Sullivan County, the [NYSDOH](#) is the agency responsible for regulating [public water systems](#). This includes water systems owned and operated by a municipality, as well as privately-owned water supply companies, and even hospitals, gas stations, and other facilities with private wells. When it comes to water systems, public means that these systems serve the public at large – not the form of ownership.

In general, water systems regulated by [NYSDOH](#) as [public water systems](#) are classified as either [community water systems](#) or [non-community water systems](#) (see Glossary for more information). The data contained in this report is limited to [community water systems](#), whether publicly or privately owned. Information about [non-community water systems](#) (including those that service transient seasonal populations like camps and bungalow colonies) is included, where available, but is not further detailed.

### 1.2.2 Wastewater Treatment Facilities (NYSDEC)

New York State's wastewater discharge regulations are administered by the [NYSDEC](#) through the [State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(SPDES\)](#) program, which requires

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permits for any facility that is designed to treat and discharge wastewater. That includes sewage treatment plants that discharge effluent directly to a surface waterbody (like a nearby lake or stream) as well as facilities that discharge wastewater into the ground (like septic systems and sand filters).

No [SPDES](#) permit is required for a facility designed to treat less than 1,000 [GPD](#), and Minor [SPDES](#) projects (those with wastewater discharges of less than 10,000 [GPD](#)) are typically covered by a [NYSDEC](#) General Permit (GP-0-25-002). Only wastewater treatment facilities that don't fall into one of those two categories (Major [SPDES](#) projects) are detailed in this report. Those include centralized systems (e.g., Publicly Owned Treatment Works), [regulated decentralized](#) systems (e.g., "package plants"), and commercial-sized septic systems that discharge to groundwater. Like water systems, wastewater treatment facilities can be publicly or privately owned.

Although the [SPDES](#) program is involved in the centralized wastewater systems with which the CAPWI effort is primarily concerned, the City of New York and [DRBC](#) each regulate in parallel wastewater facilities within their respective geographies. Of further note is that residential systems handling less than 1,000 [GPD](#) are regulated by [NYSDOH](#).

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## Table of Contents

1.	About this Document .....	2
2.	Glossary of Terms .....	6
3.	Municipal Overview.....	19
4.	Water Supply and Distribution Inventory & Evaluation.....	19
5.	Sanitary Sewer and Wastewater Treatment Inventory & Evaluation .....	22
6.	Methodology and Sources .....	24

## List of Figures

Figure 1. Village of Wurtsboro water facilities map .....	20
Figure 2. Village of Wurtsboro wastewater facilities map .....	23

## List of Tables

Table 1. Village of Wurtsboro water withdrawal permit information (all figures in GPD) .....	21
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## 2. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### 2.1 Action Level (AL)

The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

### 2.2 Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR)

The Annual Water Quality Report is required by federal law and NYS regulation and is designed to provide consumers with information on the quality of the water delivered by their [public water system](#). Systems serving fewer than 1,000 service connections are required to report information on the water source and water treatment, the levels of any detected contaminants, and compliance with drinking water rules, plus general educational information. The report also includes an explanation of the size of the population served by the system, which also typically includes the number of service connections. These reports are available at municipal offices and on municipal websites for public consumption.

### 2.3 Centralized System (Water or Sewer)

Centralized systems, which can be water supply or wastewater management, refer to infrastructure that is, typically but not exclusively, municipally owned and which is characterized by extensive distribution and conveyance networks serving large areas. Water supply and wastewater management are provided at typically larger-scale facilities. These systems are highly regulated. This infrastructure consists of both collection and conveyance, as well as treatment.

### 2.4 Decentralized System (Water or Sewer)

These systems are characterized by smaller numbers of connections and with water supply and wastewater treatment works provided closer to the users or source of demand. This term includes individual on-site water supply wells and septic systems serving single users, but also encompasses systems serving multiple connections that are regulated similarly to centralized systems.

## 2.5 Collection and Conveyance System

The sanitary sewer collection and conveyance system refers to the elements of the sewer system that enable wastewater to flow from points where it's generated to the point(s) where it's treated. In this report, the system begins at the point of connection to individual users and consists, generally, of pipes, manholes, pump stations, forcemains, and upstream wastewater storage (flow attenuation).

## 2.6 Community Water System (CWS)

A public water system (i.e., one that serves 15 or more service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents - see definition in this document) that supplies water to the same population year-round. Examples of community water systems include municipally owned (cities, towns, or villages) public water supplies, public water authorities, or privately-owned water suppliers such as homeowner associations, apartment complexes, and mobile home parks that maintain their own drinking water system. See also the discussion in this Glossary of non-community water systems.

Community water system information, where available, is presented in tabular format. The following table provides an explanation of the meaning of the various values contained in each of the fields.

Water System	Service Area	SDWA #	Population	Connections
<i>[Name of water system]</i>	<i>[The Primary type of area that is served by the <u>public water system</u>: MHP = mobile home park]; HOA = Home-owners association; Residential = Residential area; etc.]</i>	<i>[Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) ID number]</i>	<i>[The reported population that is served by the system in SDWIS reporting.]</i>	<i>[The reported number of service connections within a system in SDWIS reporting.]</i>

## 2.7 Deferred Maintenance

In this report, deferred maintenance refers to the postponement of essential upkeep, repairs, or replacements for public facilities, infrastructure, or equipment. These typically minor items will become delayed to the point where they end up impacting performance and reliability, becoming far more costly to rectify. Small maintenance over many years is

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more sustainable than waiting for an issue to happen, such as a water main break due to an unrepaired detected leak, or continuing to operate with undersized or obsolete equipment instead of upgrading to something that will save time and money over the long run.

## **2.8 Delaware River Basin (DRB) and Delaware River Basin Boundary**

The area of drainage into the Delaware River and its tributaries, including Delaware Bay, is regulated by the DRBC. Its size is approximately 13,500 sq. miles and includes land in four states.

## **2.9 Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC)**

The Delaware River Basin Commission is the regional body created in 1961 by the Delaware River Basin Compact signed among the states of Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York with the force of law to oversee managing the Delaware River system across state boundaries. Among other regulatory programs, DRBC addresses projects in the basin that withdraw from or discharge to the basin's waters over certain thresholds. The threshold for water withdrawals is taking water from ground or surface water, or diversion, or transfer in or out of the Basin, when the daily average gross withdrawal during any 30 consecutive-day period exceeds 100,000 gallons. The threshold for discharges is those over 50,000 GPD during any consecutive 30-day period from wastewater treatment facilities or the importation or exportation of wastewater.

## **2.10 Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Docket**

The record of decision made by DRBC, pursuant to its authority under the 1961 Compact, relating to an application for a permit, including those relating to regulated water withdrawals and discharges. Dockets contain information about water and sewer systems and permitted withdrawal and discharge thresholds.

## **2.11 Distressed Communities**

As per the Empire State Development Corporation and NYS Climate Act, distressed or disadvantaged communities are those that bear the burden of negative public health effects, environmental pollution, and climate change impacts that possess population decline, economic hardships, high unemployment, and high concentrations of low to moderate-income households.

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## **2.12 Disinfection Byproducts (DBPs)**

DBPs are substances produced when chlorine, used for disinfection of water, reacts with organic materials in the water. The formation of DBPs is usually a greater concern for water systems that use surface water, such as rivers, lakes, and streams, as their source, as these sources are more likely to contain organic materials necessary for these reactions.

Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) are volatile regulated disinfection DBPs that can pose significant cancer, organ, and reproductive risks. They include chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform.

Total haloacetic acids (THAA) are regulated disinfection DBPs that can pose cancer and developmental health risks. They include monochloroacetic, dichloroacetic, trichloroacetic, monobromoacetic, and dibromoacetic acids.

## **2.13 Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU)**

An EDU is a measurement for water usage that standardizes all users into units based on the demand of one single-family dwelling unit. EDUs are used by utility providers to calculate service charges associated with the probable demand for each user.

## **2.14 New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC)**

EFC is a NYS public benefit corporation that assists communities and certain businesses throughout New York State to undertake critical water quality infrastructure projects by providing access to low-cost capital, grants, and expert technical assistance. As such, EFC plays a significant role in capital projects undertaken by NYS municipalities. A primary goal is to ensure that these projects remain affordable while safeguarding essential water resources. EFC develops and advances financing strategies to maximize the funding that can be made available, aiding compliance with Federal and State requirements, and promoting green infrastructure practices. In implementing these programs, EFC partners with NYSDEC and NYSDOH on wastewater and drinking water supply projects, respectively.

EFC allocates state and federal funds to participating entities in the form of grants and loans. Major programs include the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), which is oriented toward sanitary sewer and wastewater infrastructure projects, and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF), which is oriented toward water supply infrastructure projects. These funds “revolve” as borrowers pay their loans back, with payments in turn used to finance new projects; EFC also uses revenue bonds to increase available capital.

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Other programs include the engineering planning grants (EPG) program, which provides support to fund the engineering reports required to apply to EFC for financial assistance. EFC provides financial assistance in the form of subsidized loans and grants, such as through the WIIA program created under the 2015 Water Infrastructure Improvement Act.

### **2.15 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) protects human health and the environment by developing and enforcing regulations, conducting research, providing education, and issuing grants. EPA sets and enforces national standards and federal environmental laws, and cleans up contaminated sites. EPA is ultimately responsible for oversight of key laws affecting both water supply and wastewater management, including the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES); oversight of states, local governments, and water suppliers to enforce the standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act; and regulation of solid and hazardous waste. Importantly, EPA also administers critical funding sources supporting investment in drinking water and clean water (wastewater management) infrastructure.

### **2.16 Gallons per Day (GPD)**

Gallons per day is a unit of measurement that defines the rate of volume flow, or use, for a liquid, such as water, over a 24-hour period. GPD is often used as a measurement of, e.g., the quantity of water consumed by a user or the amount of wastewater generated over the course of a day.

### **2.17 Gallons per Minute (GPM)**

Gallons per minute is a unit of measurement for flow rate, indicating the volume of a liquid that passes a specific point in one minute. GPM is often used to indicate, e.g., the capacity of a water well.

### **2.18 Individual On-Site Facilities or Systems (Water or Sewer)**

As used in this report, individual facilities (or systems) are a subtype of decentralized infrastructure serving a single user, most commonly via on-site water supply wells and septic systems. These wells and septic systems are mainly regulated under building codes, the NYS sanitary code (administered by NYSDOH), and NYSDEC (i.e., with respect to water well drilling and licensing of well drillers). However, these systems may also be regulated

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similarly to centralized systems, depending on capacities and types of uses or users served (see Regulated Decentralized Systems).

### **2.19 Inflow and Infiltration (I&I)**

Inflow is when storm water enters the sanitary sewer system (e.g., from a sump pump or roof leader), while infiltration is when groundwater seeps into the system (e.g., due to high groundwater and defects or cracks in pipes and manholes). Both are problems for wastewater treatment, as this "clean" water adds unnecessary volume to the system, which can overload treatment plants or reduce capacity in elements of the conveyance system, such as pipes or pump stations.

### **2.20 Influent (WWTP)**

Influent flow refers to the incoming wastewater that enters a wastewater treatment plant. It is measured at a point prior to the wastewater entering any portion of the treatment process.

### **2.21 Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**

MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) as possible. MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. MCLs are required to be reported on a water system's AWQR.

### **2.22 Methyl Tert-Butyl Ether (MTBE)**

Methyl tert-butyl ether is a chemical historically used as a gasoline additive. It is a type of volatile organic compound (VOC) that can contaminate groundwater by evaporating easily and dissolving in water.

### **2.23 Million Gallons per Day (MGPD)**

Million gallons per day is a unit of measurement that defines the rate of volume flow, or use, for a liquid, such as water, over a 24-hour period, reported in increments of 1 million gallons. MGPD is often used as a measurement of water produced by a source or wastewater treated at a WWTP over the course of a day.

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## **2.24 Municipal System (water or sewer)**

This is the term used throughout the report to denote ownership by a municipal corporation, such as a village or town, of a centralized water supply or wastewater management system.

## **2.25 New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)**

NYSDOH is responsible for administering the rules and regulations governing both water supply and wastewater management. Under regulatory power delegated by USEPA, NYSDOH regulates public water systems, including community water systems, in NYS. NYSDOH also regulates certain wastewater management systems under an agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC); NYSDOH-regulated systems typically include residential septic systems and other wastewater facilities with a flow of less than 1,000 GPD.

## **2.26 Non-Community Water System**

According to NYSDOH, a non-community water system is a public water system (i.e., a water system with at least 5 service connections or that regularly serves an average of at least 25 people daily for at least 60 days out of the year) that serves the public but does not generally serve the same people year-round. There are two types of non-community water systems: transient and non-transient non-community water systems.

- **Transient Non-community Water System** – A transient non-community water system is a non-community water system that serves different people for more than six months out of the year. Rest stops, parks, convenience stores, and restaurants with their own water supplies are examples of transient non-community water systems. In Sullivan County, summer camps that maintain their own water systems are also examples of transient non-community water systems.
- **Non-transient Non-community Water System** – A non-transient non-community water system is a non-community water system that serves the same people more than six months per year, but not year-round. Schools, colleges, hospitals, and factories with their own water supplies are examples of non-transient non-community water systems.

Non-community water systems are regulated by NYSDOH as public water systems (see public water system discussion in this Glossary). For purposes of this report, these systems are discussed where information is available.

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## **2.27 NYC Watershed Boundary**

The NYC Watershed Boundary encompasses the NYC watershed, defined as the land area contributing surface water to the New York City water supply. Activities within the NYC watershed are subject to the City of New York's Rules and Regulations for the Protection of Contamination, Degradation, and Pollution of the New York City Water Supply and its Sources. This includes wastewater management systems, such as individual on-site septic systems and wastewater treatment plants.

## **2.28 NYSDEC Water Withdrawal Permit**

Any water withdrawal system with the capacity to withdraw 100,000 gallons per day (GPD) (also referred to as "threshold volume") or more of surface water, groundwater, or a combination thereof requires registration with, permitting from, and reporting to NYSDEC, pursuant to Part 601 of the New York Compilation of Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR).

## **2.29 Other System (water or sewer)**

This is the term used throughout the report to denote ownership by a non-municipal entity, such as a mobile home park, industrial campus, or homeowner's association, of a centralized water supply or wastewater management system.

## **2.30 Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)**

According to the EPA, PFAS are widely used, long-lasting chemicals, components of which break down very slowly over time. Because of their widespread use and persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment. PFAS are found in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the nation and the globe. Scientific studies have shown that exposure to some PFAS in the environment may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals. There are thousands of PFAS chemicals, of which are found in many different consumer, commercial, and industrial products. Questions remain in terms of how to better detect these compounds, the extent of human exposure, the magnitude of human and environmental harm, and how to manage these chemicals. Under recent rulemaking, the EPA will regulate five PFAS individually. They are PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, and HFPO-DA. EPA will regulate four PFAS as a mixture: PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS.

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### **2.31 Public Service Commission (PSC) Docket**

A PSC docket is a file for a specific case or proceeding containing official documents, hearing transcripts, and public comments related to the regulation of utility companies, such as those for electric, gas, and water services. Certain privately owned centralized sewer systems and water supply systems are regulated by PSC pursuant to the NYS Transportation Corporations law. In general, sanitary conveyance and treatment systems serving more than one service connection (NYSDEC SPDES Permit regulations (6 NYCRR 750-1.6(f)) and water supply systems -- except municipally-owned systems - selling, furnishing, and distributing water for domestic, commercial and public purposes (Art. 4-B of the NYS Public Service Law) are regulated by PSC with respect to rates, charges, and other aspects of utility operations.

### **2.32 Public Water System**

Pursuant to federal and NYS regulations, a public water system is defined as one that provides water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances to at least 15 service connections or serves an average of at least 25 people for at least 60 days a year. A public water system may be publicly or privately owned.

### **2.33 Ragging**

As used in this report, "ragging" refers to the accumulation and entanglement of fibrous, non-biodegradable debris in and around the impellers of wastewater treatment pumps, including, but not limited to, wet wipes, rags, hair, and plastics. This phenomenon creates rope-like bundles that obstruct flow, reduce efficiency, and cause costly maintenance issues.

### **2.34 Regulated Decentralized System (Water Supply or Wastewater Management)**

A regulated decentralized system is a subcategory of decentralized infrastructure that is regulated similarly to centralized systems. Regarding water supply, this term includes a public water system, as defined by NYSDOH in regulation, that typically is privately owned but may also include systems owned by municipalities. It encompasses centralized and certain decentralized water supply systems, but also other public water systems, such as those serving restaurants. In addition to NYSDOH, these systems may also be regulated by NYSDEC and DRBC (for water withdrawals). Regarding wastewater management, these systems may discharge to surface water or groundwater and require SPDES permits (i.e.,

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capacity to discharge 1,000 gpd or more). Depending on their location, these systems may also be regulated by DRBC and/or NYCDEP.

### **2.35 Rotating Biological Contactors (RBC)**

An RBC is a fixed-film treatment process used in the secondary treatment of wastewater. It consists of a series of closely spaced, parallel discs mounted on a rotating shaft, which is supported just above the surface of the wastewater. Microorganisms grow on the surface of the discs, where biological degradation of pollutants takes place prior to discharge into the environment.

### **2.36 Service Area**

As used in the report, service area refers to the geography within which users may be served by centralized water or sewer systems.

### **2.37 Special District (e.g., water district or sewer district)**

A special district refers to the special-purpose government vehicle that towns and counties in NYS are authorized to create for the purpose of providing a service. In this report, special district generally refers to the authority for NYS towns to create water districts and sewer districts pursuant to NYS Town Law Article 12 and Article 12-a. A special district has three discrete elements: The legal requirements governing formation and operation, the taxation and administration by which a town provides water or sewer service, and the engineering and design of the infrastructure supporting the provision of these services. NYS General Municipal Law Art. 17-a also provides for the consolidation of water and sewer districts. In NYS, villages do not have the authority to create special districts and instead provide water and sewer service pursuant to Articles 11 and 14 of the NYS Village Law, respectively.

### **2.38 State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES)**

SPDES is the permit program in NYS that addresses water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States. NYSDEC administers the program under authority created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act, known as the NPDES permit program. Under NPDES, state governments are authorized by the EPA to perform many permitting, administrative, and enforcement aspects of the program. In this report, SPDES and associated NYSDEC permitting refer to the outlet or discharge pipe (referred to as a "point source") that discharges sanitary wastewater into the surface waters or ground

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waters of the state, and constructing or operating a disposal system such as a sewage treatment plant.

### **2.39 State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit "Administrative" or "SAPA" Renewal**

SAPA renewal (or continuation; also called "administrative renewal") is the process by which certain SPDES permits may be issued without a [full technical review](#) by NYSDEC. It typically occurs on a 5-year cycle, based on the date of permit issuance. Authority for SAPA renewals lies in NYS's State Administrative Review Act (SAPA). Provided a SPDES permittee makes a timely application to NYSDEC for renewal of an existing SPDES permit, NYSDEC may authorize, administratively, that permittee to continue to operate their regulated discharge. This continuation is typically permitted under the terms and conditions of the prior SPDES permit. It is important to note that SAPA renewal can result in situations where a SPDES permit, after several SAPA renewal cycles, may get out of alignment with applicable standards, and compliance with contemporary standards can ultimately require capital investment.

### **2.40 State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Environmental Benefit Permit Strategy (EBPS)**

"Also known in NYS regulation as a Modification Priority Ranking System, EBPS is the system that establishes procedures to manage State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit renewal applications in a manner that prioritizes permits based upon their potential or actual impact to the environment. Under this system, SPDES permit holders are assigned a score and rank that then determines the order in which NYSDEC staff carry out a full technical review to determine whether a permit needs modification. Facilities are assigned a score for applicable priority ranking factors, each of which is then multiplied by a value according to assessed potential impacts to water quality. A longevity factor is applied based on the permit type and time since full technical review (long form permit application). These scores are added together, and a rank is assigned. The higher the EBPS Permit Priority Score, the higher the priority that permit has for full technical review and modification initiated by NYSDEC."

### **2.41 State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit Full Technical Review**

Full technical review is the process by which NYSDEC reviews applications for SPDES permits. It is in contrast to SAPA renewal. Full technical review may be initiated by NYSDEC or may be initiated due to a permittee's request to modify their existing permit (e.g., to

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increase the flow of a WWTP). Reviews are performed based upon potential water quality impact or major changes to the facility’s flow and wastewater treatment system. The process involves determining whether new effluent limits and other permit requirements, such as best management practices or a compliance schedule, are needed.

#### **2.42 Submersible Chopper Pumps**

This type of pump is a centrifugal pump designed for liquid submersion, which is equipped with a cutting system that “chops” up all incoming solids prior to pumping to minimize clogging within a wastewater system.

#### **2.43 Sullivan County Partnership**

Officially “The Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development”, is a private not-for-profit corporation that serves as the one-stop resource for business development in the County. The Partnership is a team that works to find the most advantageous and cost-effective locations for the expansion of industry and supports small business development by providing guidance and technical assistance through a variety of financing options.

#### **2.44 Trickling Filters**

A trickling filter is a step in pollutant removal at a wastewater treatment facility that uses microorganisms to remove organic matter by distributing it over a fixed bed of porous sediment.

#### **2.45 Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)**

A variable frequency drive (VFD) is an electronic device that controls the speed of an AC motor by adjusting the frequency and voltage of the power supplied to it. VFDs are energy efficient when demand on a motor or system varies, as VFD output can be varied based on demand or load. This is in contrast to across-the-line drives, which operate at full voltage and cannot be varied.

#### **2.46 Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)**

A wastewater treatment plant is the location at which pollutants are removed from wastewater collected, and is a critical element of a wastewater management system. WWTPs typically involve several processes. Preliminary treatment is the measurement, screening, and removal of inorganic material (grit). Primary treatment is a physical settling process that removes larger solids (e.g., in a settling tank or clarifier). Secondary treatment

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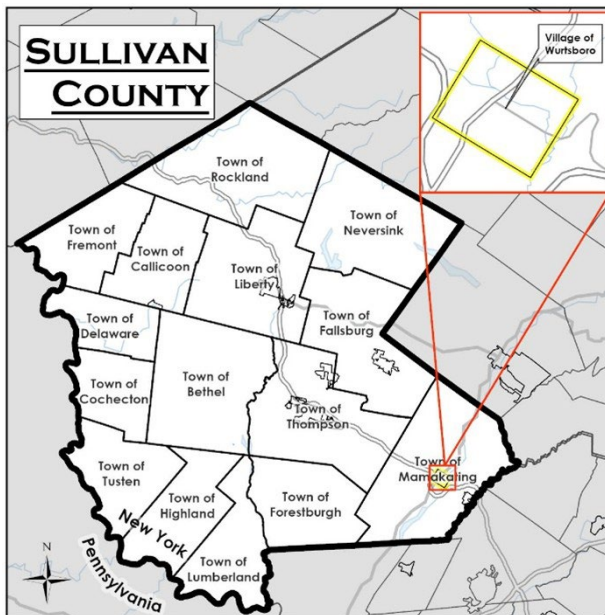
is a biological process in which dissolved solids are converted by microorganisms into a cellular or biological mass that can be later removed (e.g., in a secondary clarifier). Tertiary or advanced treatment involves disinfection (e.g., chlorine or UV light) as well as nutrient, additional solids, or biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) removal.

#### **2.47 Water Distribution System**

Water distribution system refers to the system elements that convey water from the source of supply to individual user connections. It includes infrastructure like pipes (water mains), valves, treatment facilities, storage tanks, and booster stations. Hydrants may be connected to the distribution system and serve water supply functions, such as flushing of mains, but hydrants also serve as part of fire suppression systems.

### 3. MUNICIPAL OVERVIEW

The Village of Wurtsboro is located in the center of the Town of Mamakating in the southeast portion of Sullivan County. The Village is developed around the intersection of Kingston Avenue (NY 209) and Sullivan Street (CR 171) between the Hamlets of Summitville, Haven, High View, and Wurtsboro Hills. Wurtsboro had a population of 1,124 at the 2020 decennial census in an area of just over 800 acres, contributing to approximately 9% of the Town’s total population and 1.3% of the Town’s total area. The Village’s 578 parcels consist of a mix of residential (361), commercial (66), and community services (26), surrounded by undeveloped forest and open space lands (51). A significant portion of the eastern and southern undeveloped areas consists of wetlands, totaling more than one-eighth of the Village’s land area at 108 acres.



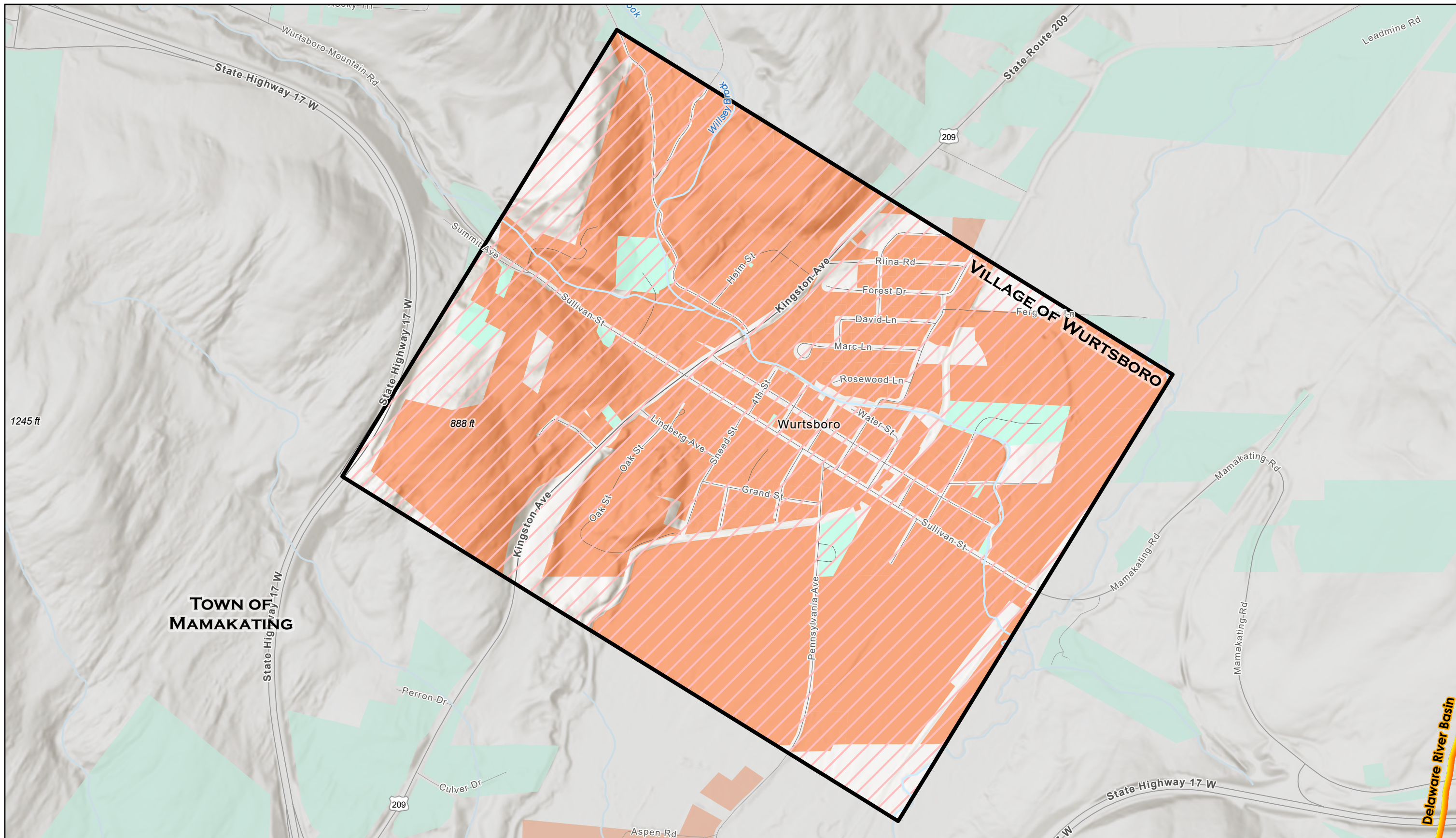
Wurtsboro does not have a [municipal sewer system](#) but does own and operate a [centralized water system](#) that serves nearly all of the properties within the Village. The Fello Lane trailer park provides private well water to residents, and five additional residential properties have private wells.

The Village lies entirely within the [DRBC boundary](#) but entirely outside the [NYC watershed boundary](#).

### 4. WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION INVENTORY & EVALUATION

#### 4.1 Municipal Systems

According to the 2017 [DRBC docket](#), the Village system supplies water to the Village of Wurtsboro and approximately 46 users in an adjoining portion of the Town of Mamakating, just south of the Village.

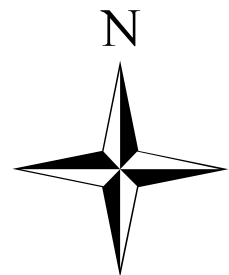
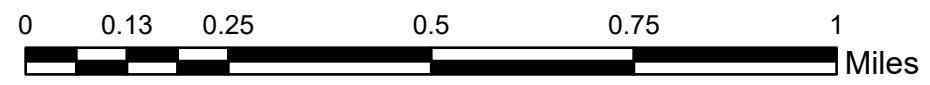


# VILLAGE OF WURTSBORO WATER FACILITIES MAP

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK

Prepared by: Delaware Engineering, DPC  
 Date: January 2026  
 Source: Sullivan County, NYSDEC, ESRI World Terrain

- Village Water Service Area
- Municipal Water Service Areas
- Centralized or Regulated Decentralized Service
- Individual On-Site Systems
- Delaware River Basin (Entire Village)
- NYC Watershed (Entirely Outside)
- Other Municipalities
- Stream
- Waterbody



#### 4.1.1 System Components Inventory and Overview

The Village water system serves an estimated 1,350 people through 466 service connections. The system has five wells and three are in use. Well 3 has a maximum flow rate of 200 GPM, Well 4 has a maximum flow rate of 75 GPM, and Well 5 has a maximum flow rate of 175 GPM. Existing Well 5 and its pump house are located within a FEMA mapped 100-year floodplain. The wellhead is equipped with a watertight seal and cased into bedrock.

The average daily withdrawal in 2022 was 154,799 gallons, with a maximum day withdrawal of 529,000 gallons. The permitted withdrawal limit as of 2023 was 914,400 GPD. In 2022, the Village reported a distribution system consisting of about 16 miles of pipe and 467 service connections, all of which are metered, with an average meter age of 18 years. The Village contracts with a private water operator to run the water treatment plant.

*Table 1. Village of Wurtsboro water withdrawal permit information (all figures in GPD)*

Water System	Component	Max Rate ( <u>GPD</u> )	Average Daily w/d	Peak Day w/d	<u>NYSDEC</u> Permitted w/d	<u>DRBC</u> Permitted w/d
Village of Wurtsboro	Well #3	288,000	154,799	529,000	792,000	335,484
	Well #4	108,000				
	Well #5	252,000				

According to the 2023 AWQR, the Village reported no violations but did report elevated levels of sodium and an action level exceedance at one sampling point for lead. Sodium is naturally occurring but also is present in the environment due to human activities, such as road salting and water softeners; animal waste also can be a source. Elevated levels of lead are likely caused by plumbing within a user’s water system and beyond the point of interconnection with the public water distribution system.

According to EPA, the lead action level is a measure of the effectiveness of the corrosion control treatment in water systems. The action level is not a standard for establishing a safe level of lead in a home. To check if corrosion control is working, EPA requires water systems to test for lead at the tap in certain homes, including those with lead service lines. Systems compare sample results from homes to EPA’s action level of 0.015 mg/L (15 ppb). If 10 percent of the samples from these homes have water concentrations that are greater than the action level, then the system must perform actions such as public education and lead service line replacement. The treatment technique regulation for lead (referred to as the Lead and Copper Rule) requires water systems to control the corrosivity of the water.

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#### 4.1.2 Recent/Future Upgrades

The Village has received state and federal funding for water infrastructure improvements. Specifically, the Village secured \$1.25 M in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. This, combined with an existing \$1.05 M in Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) funding, provides a total funding package for replacing the water main along Sullivan Street and a 300,000-gallon water storage tank. In the near term, the Village is looking to continue to improve the infrastructure along Sullivan Street and develop a downtown park.

#### 4.1.3 Finances and Administration

As part of the data collection process, information about system finances and budgeting was requested and researched from publicly available sources; local codes governing system administration and use were also reviewed, where publicly available. This information, where available, was used in order to develop an understanding of key metrics, including revenues and trends, expenses and trends, rate structure, revenues versus expenditures, debt service, and reserves.

Analysis of available financial information against the following metrics is as follows.

Detailed budget and other relevant information was unavailable for review at the time of writing with respect to revenues and trends, expenses and trends, rate structure, revenues versus expenditures, debt service, reserves, and water use law.

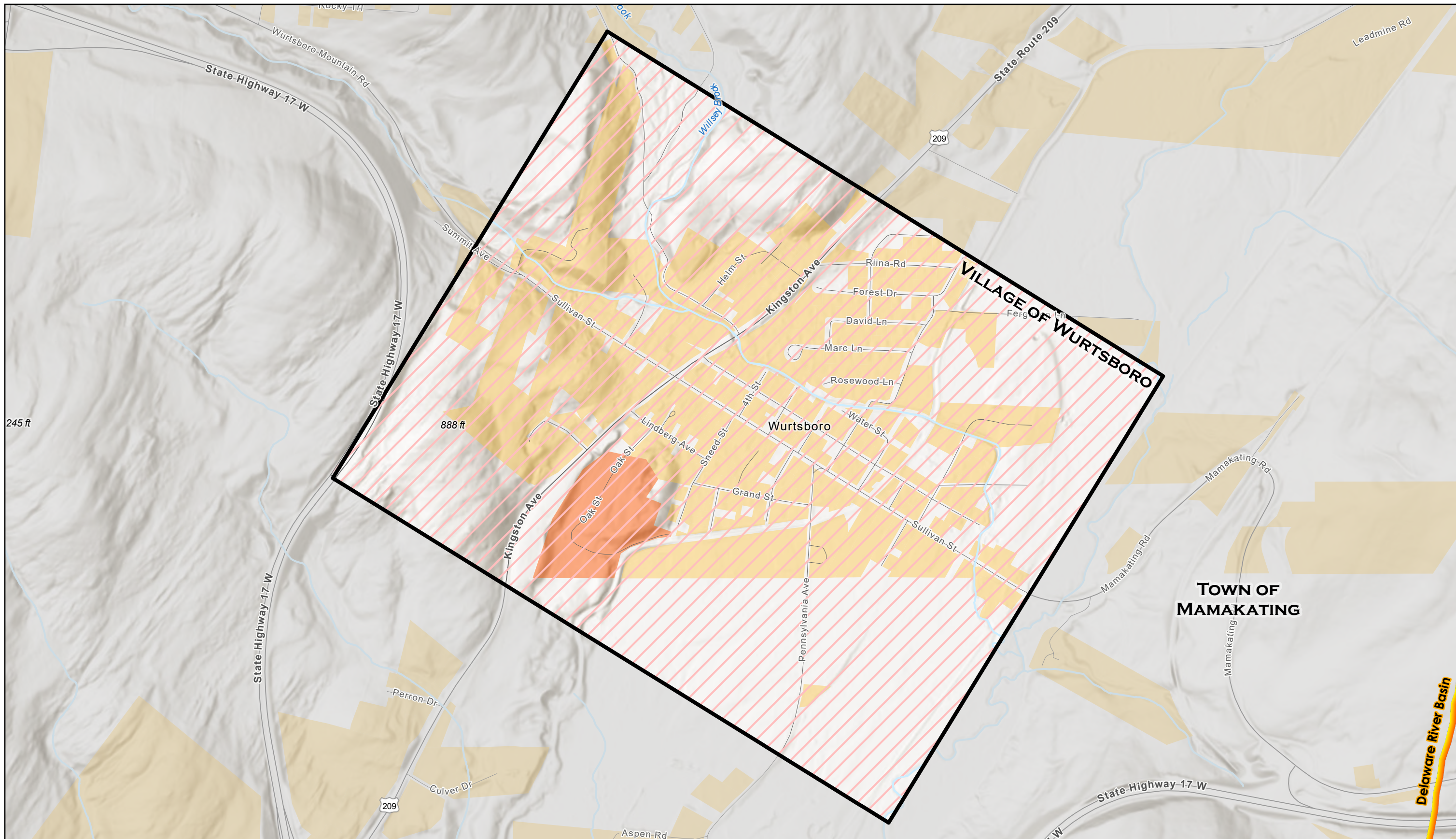
#### 4.2 Other Systems

No private centralized water systems exist within the Village, and there are no facilities with capacity requiring a NYSDEC water withdrawal permit.

#### 4.3 Challenges and Opportunities

As noted, some of the water supply infrastructure is situated within areas of flood hazard. The age of some of the components, including the water meters, may present challenges in terms of life cycle and operational characteristics. NYSDEC water withdrawal data suggest that the Village system does not operate near its permitted capacity.










## 5. SANITARY SEWER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT INVENTORY & EVALUATION

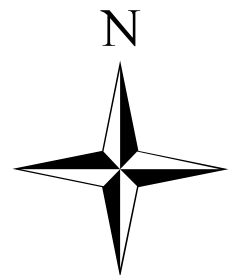
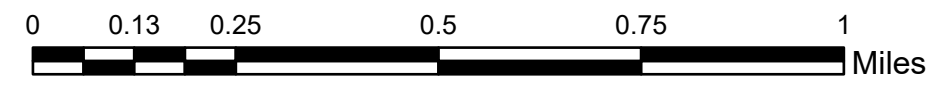


# VILLAGE OF WURTSBORO WASTEWATER FACILITIES MAP

SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK

Prepared by: Delaware Engineering, DPC  
 Date: January 2026  
 Source: Sullivan County, NYSDEC, ESRI World Terrain

-  Village Wastewater Service Areas
-  Individual On-Site Systems
-  Other Municipalities
-  Municipal Sewer Service Areas
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No centralized sewer service is available in the Village. Wastewater generated in the Village is disposed of through use of onsite septic systems. No private centralized sewer systems are currently operating within the Village of Wurtsboro.

## 5.1 Challenges and Opportunities

According to NRCS information, soils in the Village boundaries are somewhat limited or very limited with respect to septic system suitability due to a combination of depth to groundwater, slow absorption rates, presence of large rock elements, and slope. However, the developed area of the Village coincides with the relatively more favorable soils (“somewhat limited”) within the Village boundaries. Given the relatively dense development pattern, locating suitable sites on existing parcels for replacement systems may be challenging.

While assessment of specific conditions in areas served by individual on-site facilities is beyond the scope of this report, challenges commonly faced with these settlement patterns, especially those areas with a long history of settlement, include individual on-site facilities designed and installed to earlier standards; difficulty obtaining space on lots to comply with contemporary standards (e.g., separation distances); and a more direct connection between septic systems and water bodies, with attendant water quality impacts. In addition, financing centralized infrastructure can be challenging due to relatively smaller numbers of potential users to be connected.

## 6. METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES

In preparing this report, publicly available data were collected and reviewed, along with any additional documentation supplied by a municipal representative, county office, or other authoritative sources. In addition, the project team contacted and interviewed key individuals who have specialized knowledge of their local systems. The following is a list of sources consulted.

- Village of Wurtsboro Annual Water Quality Report (AWQR) 2023 (NY5203352)
- 2025/2026 budget
- Village code
- NRCS Web Soil Survey