



LAKE • GEORGE
WATERKEEPER®

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July 8, 2009

Mr. Galen Seerup, Chairman
Town of Putnam Planning Board
123 Lower Road
Putnam Station, NY 12861

Re: Smith – 662 Gull Bay Road (14-1-3)

Dear Mr. Seerup:

The Lake George Waterkeeper has reviewed the application material for the above referenced site plan and would like to offer the following comments regarding the application:

1. The existing on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) should be certified to current New York State Department of Health Standards.

The applicant has proposed to connect to the existing OWTS for the guest house. However, upon discussion with Nick Lasarre, Director of the Darrin Fresh Water Institute when it was located at the property, I was informed of the following items that were part of DFWI vacating the property back in 1981:

- The septic tank for the new system installed which serviced the laboratory was filled.
- The septic system for the infirmary and the dormitory was an older seasonal system and was not upgraded when DFWI occupied the site.

Since the proposed use is a change to residential, the proposed OWTS must be compliant with current NYSDOH and Town of Putnam standards.

2. The use of eave trenches for stormwater management should be reevaluated.

The applicant proposes to install the eave trenches over the foundation drain which will discharge any infiltrated runoff. The Waterkeeper would encourage the applicant to install raingardens (small shallow depressions with amended soils and native perennial plantings) in close proximity to the house. These are attractive landscape features and provide important stormwater treatment. Although the applicant could seek a waiver from the requirement for stormwater management, the Waterkeeper would encourage the applicant to install stormwater management to improve water quality.

3. Conflicting information is provided on the eave trenches.

The plan states the eave trench will be 4' wide and the stormwater calculations are based on a 4' width. However, the detail provided states a 3' width on the width. This should be clarified.



Thank you for your consideration. The Lake George Waterkeeper looks forward to working with the Town of Putnam Planning Board in defending the natural resources of Lake George and its watershed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Navitsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher Navitsky, PE
Lake George Waterkeeper

cc: Mike White – Lake George Park Commission