

Andrew J. Spano  
County Executive

Department of Health

Joshua Lipsman, M.D., J.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner

July 7, 2009

Mr. Ray Tartaglione  
101 Westmoreland Avenue  
White Plains, New York 10606

Re: Hen Island  
Rye, New York

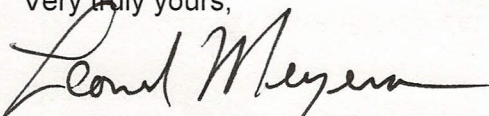
Dear Mr. Tartaglione:

This is in response to your letter dated June 24, 2009. It is agreed that cistern water is unacceptable as a potable water supply source. Presently there are no potable water sources on Hen Island. The code sections you reference apply to buildings that have public or potable well water available, but absent either do not have application. However, this Department has no objection to the pursuit by any resident on Hen Island to connect to a public utility or develop an onsite well.

For clarification on the Rye City Plumbing Code reference, please contact the Rye Building Department.

Regarding sewage disposal on Hen Island, the Health Department will continue to inspect all cottages on weekends during the summer, using the same measure to protect public health that we employ during all responses to citizen septic complaints. That measure is emerging sewage or strong odor. Note that Health Department sanitarians reserve more invasive testing of septic systems to instances when significant septic system failures are encountered. At our last inspection on June 25, 2009 it was determined that Cottage #19 has installed a new composting toilet that is a non-waterborne system. Composting toilets are listed as an acceptable system by the New York State Department of Health and are not under the jurisdiction of this department.

Very truly yours,



Leonard S. Meyerson, P.E.  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Environmental Health