

PE5 Action: Residential Organic Waste Program

Village residents with permits are allowed to utilize the Village of Saranac Lake Compost Facility. The facility provides a place for any Village resident (after filling out a proper permit application) to drop off any of the following: lawn clippings, leaves, small sticks, and other brush. The brush is chipped and mixed with the yard clippings and allowed to decompose, a process that takes about 2 1/2 - 3 years. The fully decomposed waste material is mixed with top soil. Top soil is a valuable resource for the Village as it is used in various landscaping and other related projects around the Village. This process of chipping and composting greatly offsets the cost of topsoil for DPW projects for any given summer. A survey of the end material each year is about 75 - 100 yards of usable compost. The Village of Saranac Lake will continue this residential organic waste program in the future because of the environmental impact and the compost material generated that results in cost savings for village taxpayers. This program is currently active, as evidenced by screenshots of the village website and the social media post included below which was posted on April 7, 2020. A compost permit application for Village residents is also included below.

The Village website provides residents with accurate, up to date information on exactly how to utilize the compost facility: https://www.saranaclakeny.gov/index.php?section=departments_dpw_watersewer

Screenshot from the webpage:

STREETS & PARKS
WATER & SEWER
CENTRAL GARAGE
FIRE
POLICE
VILLAGE CLERK
VILLAGE MANAGER
VILLAGE TREASURER
STAFF DIRECTORY



Dave Lewis
Waste Water
Treatment Plant
Operator
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518-891-3037

About

The Water & Sewer Division's responsibilities include:

- Operation of the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP)
- Inspection and maintenance of the sanitary sewer mains
- Mandated Department of Environmental Conservation / Environmental Protection Agency (DEC/EPA) laboratory testing
- Operation and maintenance of Village-owned lift stations
- Maintenance of water and sewer mains as outlined in agreements with the towns of Harrietstown, St. Armand, and North Elba (the WWTP also accepts sewage from the state and federal correctional facilities in Ray Brook).
- Delivery of fresh drinking water to Village residents and water district customers.
- Mandated Department of Health (DOH) daily monitoring of approved sites for chlorine residuals (used for Disinfection) and zinc orthophosphate residuals (used for corrosion control).
- Maintain water mains and laterals to the curb of homes

Rates

The Village works to set water and sewer rates each year. To find out the current year's rates visit the [Water and Sewer Rates Schedule](#)

The System

Sewer System – the Village sewer system comprises 33 miles of pipeline, which includes sewer lift stations, gravity main and forced main, and hundreds of sanitary manholes. Age of sewer mains ranges from 1900 to present. The pipe system includes clay tile pipe, plastic pipe, and cast-iron pipe.

Water System – the Village water system is comprised of 40 miles of pipeline which includes transmission mains, distribution mains and service lines. Age of pipelines range from 1950 to present. The water system includes cast-iron, ductile iron, and high-density polyethylene pipes. The system also includes fire hydrants and approximately 2,135 water meters.

Waste Water Treatment Facility –The WWTP treats and average daily flow of 1.8 million gallons per day. Leftover sludge is transported to the Franklin County Landfill.

Water & Sewer Emergencies

In the event of a sewer emergency, a little trouble shooting can go a long way to quickly fixing the problem. If you are not the building owner, inform the building owner/manager of the problem and work with the owner/manager to trouble shoot in an attempt to fix the problem. Some tips to keep in mind:

- If the clog is in the building (such as a toilet) or in the service line from the building, contact a plumber. If the problem is not due to the building's system, the plumber will contact the Department of Public Works to ensure that the Village's system is functioning properly.
- Sometimes a clogged sewer main will cause a manhole to overflow. Please notify us if you see this happen.
- If the sewer emergency appears to be due to a clog in a publicly-owned main contact us.
- Contact us to report a water leak or water emergency.
- During normal business hours (Mon-Fri 7AM-3PM), call the DPW (518)891-1100, or the Water & Sewer division (518)891-3037. After hours, contact the Saranac Lake Fire Department at (518)891-2333.

Compost Facility

The WWTP assigned staff also operate a compost facility where Village residents may dispose of leaves and brush. This facility is fully staffed during normal business hours and even has set weekend hours. In order to drop off compost materials, you must be a Village resident and obtain a [compost permit](#) for non-commercial use. Contact the Water and Sewer Division with any questions regarding the compost facility (518)891-3037.

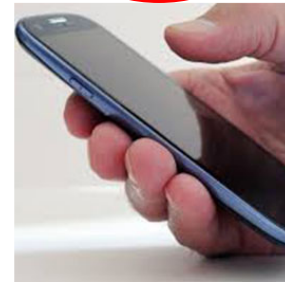
Compost Hours

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday 7:00am-2:30pm
Saturday - Sunday 7:00am-12:00 pm

At this time, we will only be accepting leaves and lawn clippings. Brush, trees and branches of any size will be prohibited at this time. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the compost facility, please call 518-891-4160.

[Compost Permit Application](#)

Water & Sewer Accounts



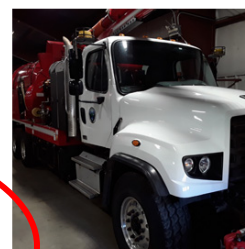
To set up a water or sewer account, pay your water or sewer bill, or for any other billing concerns, call (518)891-4150 ext. 232 during normal business hours from 8AM-5PM Mon.-Fri., or if you call during off hours, leave a message and we will be sure to get back to you.

Water Quality Report



The Village of Saranac Lake annually issues a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources.
[Water Quality Reports](#)

Water & Sewer Division Recognition



In 2004 the WWTP recieved the prestigious Andrew M. Weist Operations and Maintenance Award for a Medium Advanced Waste Water Plant.

The Village social media pages, such as this Instagram page, regularly relay information on how to access the compost facility.

Now Open: Village of Saranac Lake Compost Facility

The Village of Saranac Lake Compost Facility is back open today. The hours of operation will be Monday thru Friday 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, except holidays. Weekend and holiday hours will be 7:00 am to 12:00 pm. At this time, we will only be accepting leaves and lawn clippings. Brush, trees and branches of any size will be prohibited at this time. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the compost facility please call 518-891-4160.

saranaclakegov
Saranac Lake, New York

saranaclakegov Compost Facility now open 7am to 2pm. #saranaclakeny #compostfacility #wwtp

7w

Liked by climatesmartsl and others

APRIL 7

Add a comment... Post

<https://www.instagram.com/saranaclakegov/>



The Village of Saranac Lake

Compost Permit Application

The compost permit is available only to **non-commercial** residents of the Village of Saranac Lake.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Village Address _____

Email _____

Permit Number _____

Date Issued _____

Date Expired _____

Is the Village address the same as mailing address?

Yes No

Vehicle Information

Make:

License Plate #:

Model:

Trailer License Plate #:

I certify that the above information is correct. I have been given a sticker to display in the vehicle listed above. I understand that only **non-commercial haulers** are permitted and that cars, trailers and trucks are not to exceed 100 gross vehicle weights. I accept that the hours of the Waste Water Treatment Plant may vary. I agree to the information listed on the "Compost Permit Guidelines" and I have received a copy.

X _____
SIGNATURE

DATE

Please provide proof of residence