

Doylestown Township Public Water and Sewer Advisory Committee

Presentation to Pebble Ridge
Community Residents

March 11, 2009

Committee Membership

- David Blois, Chairman
- Ed Harvey, Vice Chairman
- Genevieve Querin
- Joseph Krumenacker
- William Lloyd, EAC Liaison
- Ron May, DTMA Liaison
- Donald Page, Planning Commission Liaison
- Wallace Pattyson
- Gary Munkelt
- Ernest Szoke
- E. Thomas Scarborough, Board of Supervisors Liaison

Why Pebble Ridge?

- Identified in 1998 questionnaire as an area that “should be addressed”
- Approximately 200 Residences
- 1998 on-site visual septic field inspection by Boucher & James
- Ability to gather information on Septic Management Program initiated in 2001

State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Definition of Malfunction

- Confirmed Malfunction
 - Visual observation of sewage on the ground surface
- Suspected Malfunction (indication the system may have failed or will fail)
 - Visual Observation of soft ground or
 - Dead or excessive growth of grass in absorption area

For purposes of display, DEP combines confirmed and suspected malfunctions

1998

- 26% (59/217) of properties in Pebble Ridge area had observed malfunctioning on-lot septic systems

2008

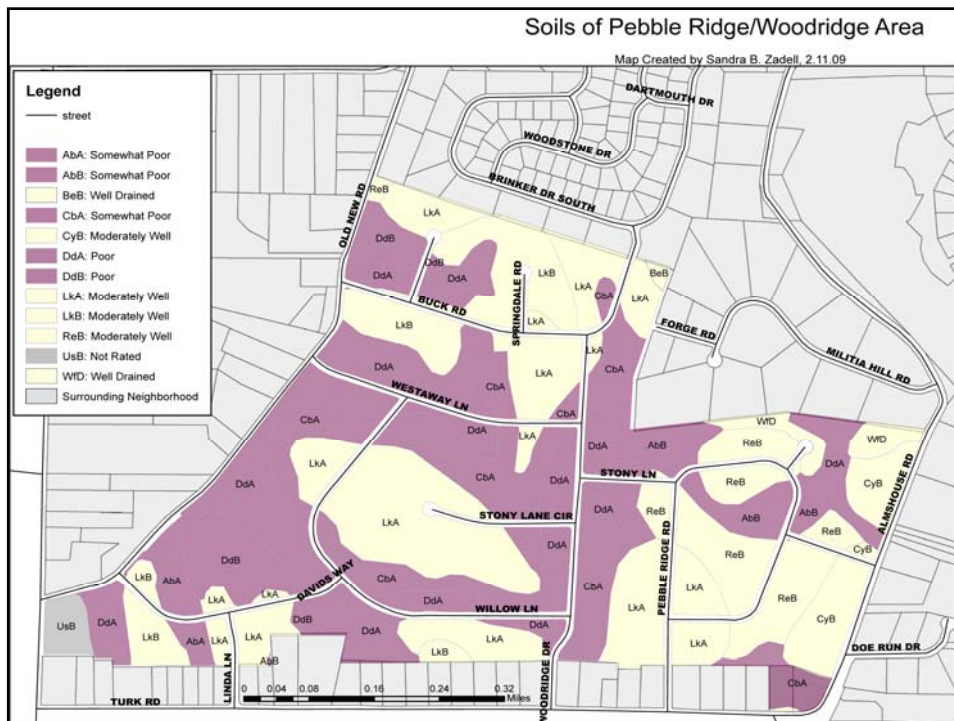
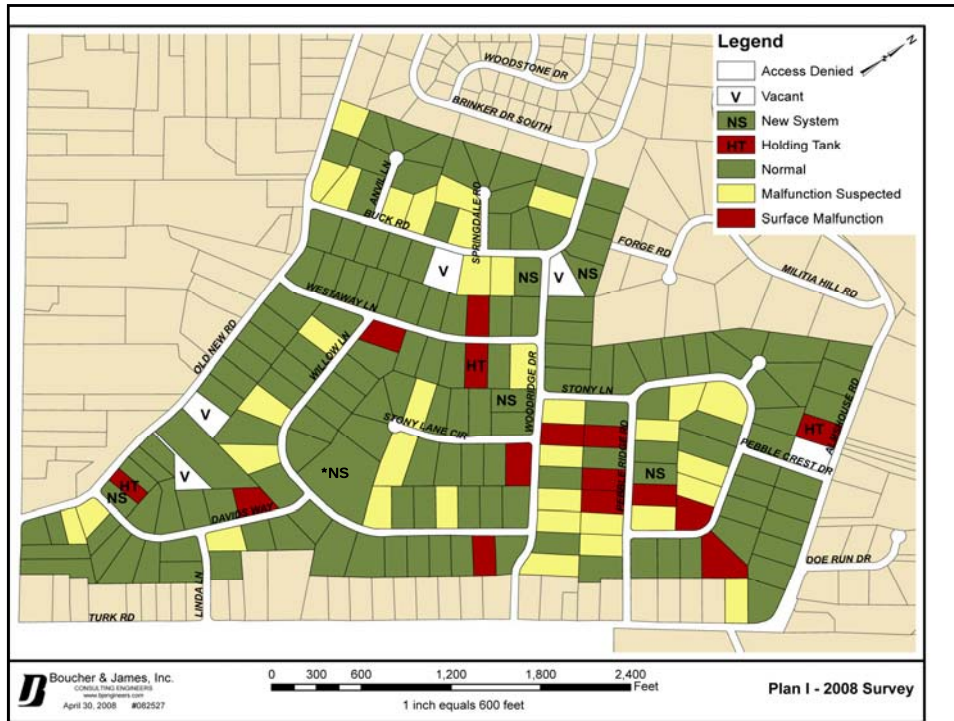
- The Boucher & James visual evaluation observed the following:
 - 25% (50/198) had malfunctioning on-lot systems

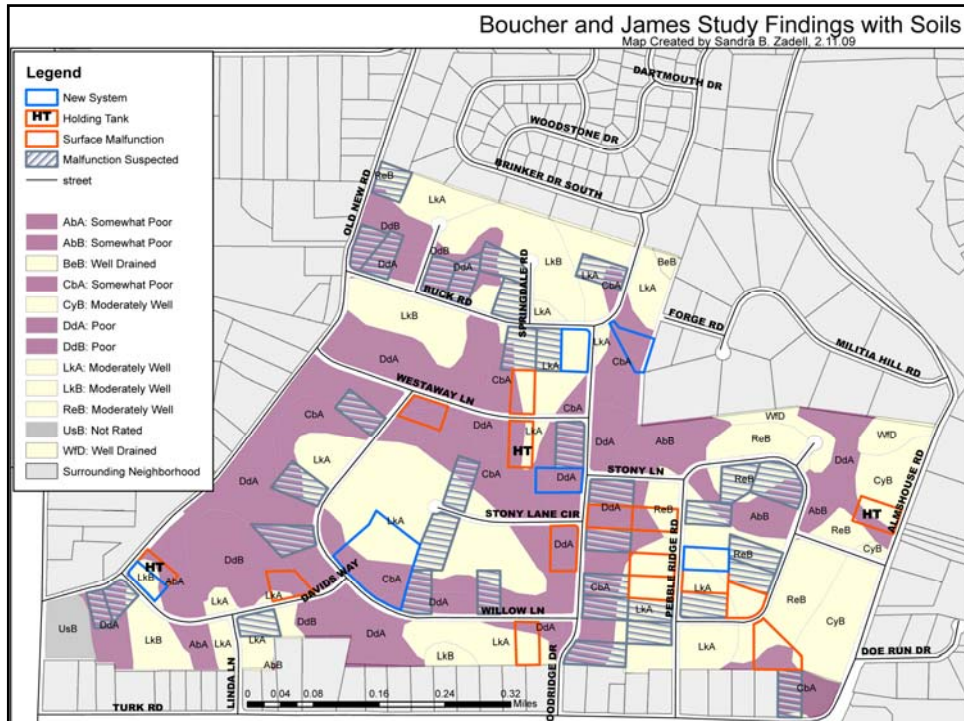
2008

- 23 properties which exhibited a malfunction in 1998 were normal in 2008
- Possible Explanations:
 - 17/23 Residents responded
 - Fewer Occupants
 - Repairs
 - Water Conservation Measures
 - Frequent Pumping
 - Adjacent to areas with Public Sewer

2008

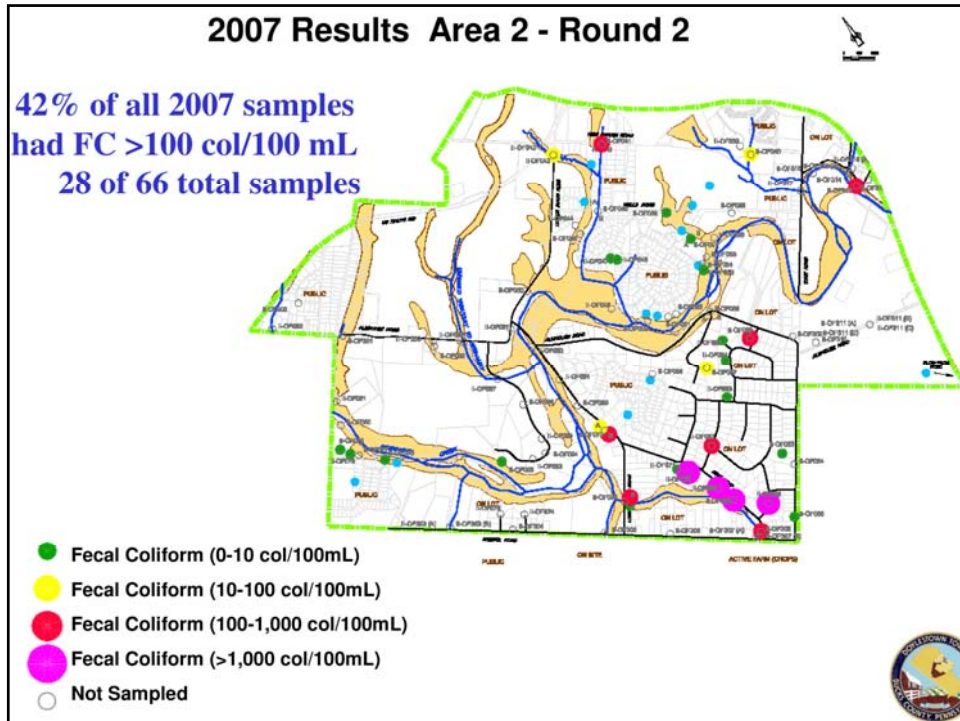
- 23 properties which exhibited a malfunction in 1998 were also exhibited a malfunction in 2008
- 20 properties which were normal in 1998 exhibited a malfunction in 2008
 - 23/50 Residents Responded
 - Many observation were confirmed by the Board of Health and/or the Pumper/Haulers





Board of Health Letter 1/13/2009

- “...the soils in this area are poorly drained and would not qualify by today’s standards.”



Conestoga Rover Report

- "...a majority of the sample results that indicated elevated fecal coliform results were collected within unsewered, primarily residential areas. The most likely cause of the elevated fecal coliform counts is the release of water from substandard, failing, or neglected septic systems. The data indicate that Area II [Pebble Ridge] is of most concern..."

Pebble Ridge Repairs or Replacements 1970 to Present

- 26 (13%) properties have:
 - Retrenched or added to the absorption field* or installed a sand mound or holding tank

* This type of repair has not been allowed since the 1980's

Septic Management Program Compliance

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Pebble Ridge Septic Inspection and Pumping Compliance for 2007 | ■ Township Septic Inspection and Pumping Compliance for 2004-2006 |
| ■ 98% Compliance | ■ 96% Compliance |

Septic Management Program Results
Pumper Visual inspection reports forwarded to
Board of Health*
Three Cycles since 2001

<u>Cycle</u>	<u>Number of Observations Reported</u>
2001	5
2004	8
2007	4

*using 2008 definition of reportable observations

Pumper/Hauler Observations

- Few properties have repeated observations over time
- Little correlation with Boucher and James
- Meeting with Township January 2009

Committee 2009 Work Plan

- Present to Board of Supervisors (BOS)
- Request BOS authorization for PWSAC to present data from Needs Sub-Committee report to Pebble Ridge Residents
- Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding Pebble Ridge
- Develop suggestions for enhancing the Septic Management Program and present to Board of Supervisors
- Initiate revision of the Township's Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan
- Develop plan of activity for Board of Supervisors approval and subsequent Department of Environmental Protection approval to qualify for 50% reimbursement for 537 Plan update