Forward thinking on nutrient pollution

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The Woods Hole Group – a local environmental engineering group – tagged my post on the variety of options available to Cape planners taking on the issue of nutrient pollution from septic systems. They point out that officials are incorporating alternatives beyond conventional wastewater treatment plants:

One encouraging piece of news can be found in the bowels (please excuse the pun) of the Falmouth Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan, which was recently approved by the town’s Board of Selectmen. The CWMP sets aside 12% of the proposed $15M budget to essentially begin an adaptive management program at Bourne’s Pond – with demonstration projects including increasing tidal flushing, installing a 15 acre oyster bed, and installing a 1500-foot permeable reactive barrier. This sort of forward thinking and willingness to test science-based adaptive management is going to be essential in finding sustainable solutions throughout the Cape.