Recently, several residents interested in storm water management and reducing water pollution have asked me what the Town of Penfield is doing to help to protect our waterways. This is a complicated subject, and I will try not to make you experts in this field or minimize the importance of this subject with my response. The Clean Water Act of 1972 set a course for requiring all municipalities to address water pollution. The regulatory agency in New York State is the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The DEC has established two general permits addressing storm water pollution for construction projects and for municipalities. Penfield has adopted a number of new laws to ensure compliance with these requirements.

Another component of our compliance measures includes the creation of a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP). This plan outlines procedures and responsibilities for town staff to comply with the federal and state requirements. This is a major undertaking to ensure that water quality is improved and protected in our waterways. The plan addresses compliance efforts for the six minimum control measures: public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction management, post-construction management, and pollution prevention and good housekeeping.

The Stormwater Coalition was created by Monroe County and involves all 29 of the regulated municipalities that are regulated under the Clean Water Act. Through a cooperative effort with the towns and villages in Monroe County, the workload in compliance efforts is shared amongst members. In addition to the SWMP, the Stormwater Coalition will be issuing its annual report to the DEC on its compliance efforts for 2011. This report covers the Town of Penfield as well as compliance efforts throughout Monroe County. The annual report will be available later this month at the Town Library and the Town Hall for review by any interested resident.

The Shepherd Home, located at 1959 Five Mile Line Road, will be holding its annual plant sale Friday, May 18, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., Saturday, May 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and Sunday, May 20, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Shepherd Home is a two-bedroom home in Penfield that operates under the hospice philosophy, providing 24-hour care for the terminally ill in a home setting. The annual operating costs of this home come from generous donors and from events like the plant sale. Please consider stopping by Shepherd Home and shop the wonderful array of plants. I understand they will offer hanging plants of ivy geraniums, petunias and begonias; flats of impatiens, pansies, marigolds, alyssum and more. A variety of perennials and vegetable plants will also be available. I hope to see you there!

You have two more weekends to take advantage of the Penfield Players annual melodrama, “Egad! The Woman in White.” Here is an old-fashioned melodrama that has only one purpose in mind…LAUGHTER! The Penfield Players’ annual melodramas are a much anticipated highlight with both actors and audiences. In fact, the audience is almost as big a part of the show as what happens on stage. Performances will be held Fridays May 11 and 18 and Saturdays May 12 and 19 at 8:00 p.m. at the Community Center, 1985 Baird Road. For more details log on to www.penfieldplayers.org. Enjoy the show!

Please mark your calendars for the annual Memorial Day ceremony to be held on Monday, May 28 at 10:30 a.m. at the Penfield Amphitheater and Kiwanis Stage. There will be a procession of roses which has become a rich tradition in Penfield to honor service members past and present. This year’s ceremony will feature a special musical tribute by Penfield High School Voice Class, led by Diane Abrahamian. If you would like to honor a friend or loved one in the procession of roses, please contact Sabrina at 340-8651 or srenner@penfield.org.

Last week I had the honor of attending the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the newly remodeled Weight Watchers store located in the Wegmans shopping plaza at the corner of Routes 441 and 250. The updated store is more modern and inviting for the community. Please stop by for a visit and to say hello. Their motto is “2012 is the year to BELIEVE and ACHIEVE.” A healthy business makes for a healthy community; please support all of our Penfield businesses!

Save the date for the annual “Ride of Silence” to be held Wednesday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m. The ride will begin at the Highway Department, 1607 Jackson Road. In 2003, Chris Phelan organized the first “Ride of Silence” in Dallas after endurance cyclist Larry Schwartz was hit by the mirror of a passing bus and died. Please join cyclists worldwide in a silent slow-paced ride in honor of those who have been injured or killed while cycling on public roadways.

Until next week, see you out in the community!

Tony
340-8631
supervisor@penfield.org