

REGARDING TARBOX TOYOTA & HYUNDAI

In 2007 Tarbox Toyota initiated a discussion with the NK Planning Department. They had outgrown their site on Post Road, were interested in relocating, and were intent upon staying in North Kingstown. The first site they were considering was located within the Wellhead Protection Area for North Kingstown's highest capacity wells in the Frenchtown Road area. This discussion led to the realization that the Groundwater Overlay Zone did not address auto sales**, so at that time an auto dealership would have been able to locate in North Kingstown's groundwater protection areas (both GW1 and GW2). Mr. Tarbox asked to meet with the NK Groundwater Committee to discuss "New Automobile Dealerships" and explain why he believed that this proposed use was very different from "Used Automobile Sales" and could be compatible with the Town's groundwater protection goal. The Water Department's primary concern was the vehicle maintenance component of this use.

At that same time the Planning and Water Department had been discussing amendments to the Groundwater Overlay regarding its impacts on drinking water wells that were not part of North Kingstown's community water system, but served its citizen's and others that pass through the town. These wells are called transient non-community wells and are primarily bedrock wells that pump less than 10 gallons per minute (in contrast to our Community Wells that are drawing from the unconfined sand and gravel aquifer and are thus more vulnerable to contamination). The amendment changed the groundwater overlay designation within the 1,750 radius of the transient wells that have access to public water from a GW1 to GW2. Not changing was the fact that the review criteria and best available control technology that we *require* to protect the groundwater *are the same* for both GW1 and GW2 and the underground storage of hazardous materials and petroleum products is prohibited in all NK groundwater overlay zones. The ordinance was also amended at that time to clarify that vehicle maintenance and service stations were prohibited as a primary use in the groundwater protection areas.

**Automobile sales and Automobile dealerships are not included on the list of *Potential Sources of Groundwater Contamination* which is included as APPENDIX 4 of the Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Public Drinking Water (R 46-13-DWQ). Also, environmental consultants working on North Kingstown's Wellhead Protection Plan did not propose that this use be prohibited or regulated under the groundwater protection regulations.