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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WESTCHESTER COUNTY ALERTS PELHAM RESIDENTS TO PHONY MAILING**

It has come to the County's attention that a letter concerning illegal toxic sludge dumping was mailed to Pelham residents on Westchester County Department of Health letterhead purporting to come from the Health Department. This letter did not, in fact, originate from the Health Department.

This appears to be in reference to a particular location in Pelham where some trees have recently died. The Health Department has responded to previous reports through its Complaint Bureau on this issue. Health Department inspectors, along with a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Forester and Solid Waste Inspector, have investigated this site and it has been determined that the reason the trees have died is because their roots were covered too deeply by street sweepings. The material found at this site consists of sand and street debris. Permits are not required for the disposal of street sweepings. No toxic sludge has been identified.

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