



## *Maintenance, Maintenance, Maintenance!*

This weekend we pan fried a wonderful piece of salmon we bought at the Bayville Fish Market. When it came time to clean the pan (which I had already dosed with a splash of lemon juice to cut down on the strong fish aromas) I remembered the camping method of cleaning pans.

When you are out camping you need to find easy ways to clean pots and pans without having a lot of water available. So, I wiped out the remains of the oil and fish shreds with a paper towel or two that I tossed away. When the pan was visibly clean I just had to rinse out the pan.

I did the same with a pot that had held butternut squash soup. Again using a paper towel I got rid of the particles left over and that pot too only needed a rinsing.

Why am I telling you this?

Because Friends of the Bay has created a successful Watershed Action Plan (WAP) - and because in many of our areas we have cesspools to take care of. What happened Sunday reminded me that we all have to carefully look at how we handle water in our homes. (Those pots might have been put into the sink, all greasy, to use dishwashing liquid and lots of water to cut the grease.)

On the same subject, I remember years ago being invited to a Friday ladies night out at the hairdressers. Husbands encouraged their wives to have their hair done at a salon and not clog up the pipes with hair - which shows that East Norwich residents have been dealing with cesspools for years.

In the WAP they suggest regular maintenance of cesspools, since that water ultimately gets into the groundwater, and we thought you might be interested in the topic. For instance I wondered if villages could have contracts with cesspool cleaning companies to do the work on a regular basis eliminating the homeowners curse - the day the laundry sinks in the basement start to fill up.

If you live in East Norwich you know what I'm talking about. If not, count yourself lucky. So like a good car, maintenance of a cesspool system is another item the careful homeowner puts on their calendar.

On the other hand, there may be some wonderful tinkerer working in his garage to find a better septic system. You never know where the next technological millionaire is working/lurking.

- DFK