

Sewage in, drinking water out

Nashua: Startup
Invents wastewater
Treatment system.

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Bill Zebuhr is the founder of Ovation Products, which has patented a system to clean residential wastewater.

NASHUA - A local startup company says it is on the verge of selling a revolutionary, patented answer for fixing failing septic systems and other wastewater problems, a product that one of the company's partners describes as "the world's most efficient distiller."

Ovation Products on East Dunstable Road says offering a product that fixes failing residential septic systems will be the jumping off point for the company to eventually offer full residential wastewater treatment systems as well as commercial and industrial systems that can turn wastewater to clean, drinkable water.

The company's solution is a much smaller, efficient system than, say, the "elephant grave" leach fields that can be seen in neighboring Massachusetts as a result of that state's stringent septic regulations. Under what Massachusetts calls its Title V regulations, many septic systems end up being designed with leach fields in the shape of very large mounds and methane gas vents poking up from the mounds.

Ovation founder Bill Zebuhr said the company's systems far exceed Title V regulations, and that environmental regulators in Massachusetts are very excited about the company's products.

"The Massachusetts people appreciate the technology we are using and how big an advance this is," Zebuhr said.

In the future, Zebuhr said, the company envisions that eventually its systems will be used throughout the world to transform wastewater into potable water.

"Water is going to be the oil of the 21st century," Zebuhr said. And the company thinks it can help individual residents, then large companies and communities turn wastewater into clean water.