

## **HEMPSTEAD HARBOR PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

Phase II Activities Undertaken

On Behalf of Member Municipalities

March 10, 2012 to March 9, 2013 Permit Year

### **MCM # 1 – Public Education and Outreach**

- Continued to work with the NYS Department of State to finalize the design of 8 new coastal interpretive signs (still being reviewed by NYS)
- Re-designed a 8' x 10' portable display
- Re-designed a tabletop display
- Displayed large portable display at fairs and festivals (see next bullet item)
- Staffed information booths at Port Washington HarborFest, Sea Cliff Mini Mart (double booth) and Town of North Hempstead's EcoFest
- Planning a joint public meeting with Manhasset Bay and Oyster Bay / Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committees for May 14, 2013
- Participated in planning for the 1<sup>st</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference (held on June 21, 2012)
- Staffed an information booth at the 1<sup>st</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference on June 21, 2012
- Participating in planning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference (to be held on June 12, 2013)
- Participated as a judge in the Long Island Envirothon
- Maintained and updated Hempstead Harbor website ([www.HempsteadHarbor.org](http://www.HempsteadHarbor.org))
- Participated in Town of Oyster Bay's Marine Education Day
- Published four articles in the Sea Cliff Village Bulletin
- Updated and distributed a handout on the status of major construction projects around the harbor
- Maintained and updated a Facebook site with relevant articles on water quality
- Updated a list of media outlets
- Distributed refrigerator magnets with HHPC and Hempstead Harbor website information
- Visited Congressional members and EPA Water Division staff in Washington DC on June 28, 2012 to advise them on water quality needs and to seek support for funding water quality improvement projects
- Monitored Nassau County sewage spill reports for the Glen Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility and posted information on Facebook and e-mailed to Committee members and others
- Distributed a brochure on shellfishing in Hempstead Harbor
- Developed and distributed a brochure on understanding beach closures and on the problems associated with feeding of wildfowl
- Posted water quality monitoring results for Hempstead Harbor on website and Facebook

- Published and distributed an Annual Water Quality Report in hard copy and disk formats and posted it on a website
- Participated in a Long Island Sound Roundtable with U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Rep. Steve Israel on April 13, 2012
- Provided an update on the Scudder's Pond subwatershed improvements to the Sea Cliff Beautification Committee
- Sent out one press release – announcing that the HHPC received the US EPA Region II's 2012 Environmental Quality Award for improving Hempstead Harbor's water quality
- Provided information to Boating Times magazine for an article entitled "Pump It" (February / March, 2012 issue)
- Organized and held a press conference with the Governor's office and the NYS Department of State on May 30, 2012 to highlight the CESSPOOL Project and impact of improper septic system maintenance at Crescent Beach in Glen Cove
- Participated with the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee, the Town of Oyster Bay, Friends of the Bay and the Oyster Bay / Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee in the CESSPOOL grant to raise public awareness of the impact of onsite waste treatment systems and the need to maintain them
- HHPC's efforts were featured in 8 articles in Newsday and the Oyster Bay Enterprise Pilot

## **MCM #2 – Public Participation**

- Held six HHPC meetings (open to the public)
- Conducted a water monitoring program with local citizen's group (Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor) – 24 monitoring events
- Planning a joint public meeting with the Manhasset Bay and Oyster Bay / Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committees
- Continued networking with local citizens groups (Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor, Glenwood / Glen Head Civic Association, North Shore Land Alliance, and United Civic Council of Glen Head and Glenwood Landing)
- Continued to provide representation to the Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee, the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District and the New York Marine Sciences Consortium
- Participated in advisory committee meetings of the Town of North Hempstead in the development of a Blueway Trail from Little Neck Bay to Hempstead Harbor
- Revised HHPC member list
- Publicized area beach cleanups
- Assisted the Town of Oyster Bay and Friends of the Bay in developing a blueway trail from Hempstead Harbor to Oyster Bay and Cold Spring Harbor

- Organized an educational boat tour of Hempstead Harbor aboard the SoundWaters schooner (but had to cancelled due to weather conditions)
- Worked with students at Hofstra University on designing outreach materials on septic maintenance
- Worked with high school student on planning a video on septic system maintenance

### **MCM # 3 – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**

- Conducted an annual harbor surveillance by boat (includes observation of any unusual discharges)
- Tested water quality weekly during late spring to fall and checked results to see if any unusual readings or trends occurred
- Continued to monitor unidentified discharges in Glen Cove Creek and continued to work with various agencies to try to determine its origin
- Participating with the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee, the Town of Oyster Bay, Friends of the Bay and the Oyster Bay / Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee in the CESSPOOL grant to raise public awareness of the impact of onsite waste treatment systems and the need to maintain them
- Participated in planning for the 1<sup>st</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference (held on June 21, 2012)
- Participating in planning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference (to be held on June 12, 2013)

### **MCM # 4 – Construction Site Runoff Control**

- Monitored changes in regulations and advised member municipalities
- Observed for unusual discharges or conditions while conducting weekly water quality monitoring (late spring to fall)
- Assisted the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District in developing Phase II sediment and erosion control training sessions
- Attended Phase II sediment and erosion training session on March 26, 2012 and received DEC certification in sediment and erosion control

### **MC # 5 – Post Construction Runoff Control**

- Monitored changes in regulations and advised member municipalities
- Observed for unusual discharges or conditions while conducting weekly water quality monitoring (late spring to fall)
- Assisted the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District in holding training sessions for municipal officials and contractors in sediment and erosion control

## **MCM # 6 – Good Housekeeping**

- Participated in planning and running the 1<sup>st</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference (held June 21, 2012) and staffed an information booth at the event
- Participating in the planning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Long Island Green Infrastructure Conference (to be held on June 12, 2013)
- Received a grant to train municipal officials in the inspection of septic systems and began preparations
- Assisted the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District in holding training sessions for municipal officials and contractors in sediment and erosion control
- Attended a webinar on Stormwater Retrofit Construction Issues on April 18, 2012 and distributed a summary to HHPC Phase II contacts
- Attended a webinar on Financial Approaches to Realizing and Maximizing Economic Benefits of Green Infrastructure on November 1, 2012 and distributed a summary to HHPC Phase II contacts
- Participated in a webinar on Good Housekeeping Practices on February 14, 2013 and distributed a summary to HHPC Phase II contacts
- Continued to work with the Town of Oyster Bay, the Village of Sea Cliff and the City of Glen Cove to maintain pet waste stations provided by HHPC
- Arranged for local manufacturer of storm drain retrofits to provide a discount to municipal members of protection committees
- Participated on the Steering Committee of the Long Island Cleaner Greener Communities project and provided suggestions on strategies to improve water quality
- Attended DEC meeting on stormwater issues on August 15, 2012 and relayed information to HHPC Phase II contacts

## **OTHER**

- Contracted with a consultant (through the Village of Sea Cliff) to develop a Powerhouse Drain Subwatershed Plan and to develop model coordinated ordinances for harbor management issues
- Worked with the Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee to establish water quality monitoring of embayments as a priority and to develop a mechanism for regular (non-grant) funding to support water quality monitoring efforts.
- Assisted the Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee in its efforts to secure federal funding and reauthorization for the Long Island Sound Restoration Act and the Long Island Sound Stewardship Act
- Continued the development of final design plans and bid specifications for the Scudder's Pond Subwatershed Improvements project including sediment and water sampling in the pond and streams that feed the pond
- Continued the development of a subwatershed plan for the Powerhouse Drain subwatershed

- Participated in the Long Island Water Quality Coordinating Committee Steering Committee
- Participated in the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District Art Auction
- Participated in the Long Island Sound Study's review of embayment water quality monitoring practices
- Continued the development of coordinated ordinances for surface water uses and a watershed protection overlay district
- Assisted the City of Glen Cove in determining options and funding sources for addressing the closure of Crescent Beach due to high bacteria counts
- HHPC received one of the US Environmental Protection Agency Region II 2012 Environmental Quality Awards on April 27, 2012 for its efforts in restoring Hempstead Harbor's water quality to the point where 2,500 acres were re-opened to shellfishing for the first time in 45 years.
- Assisted Save the Sound with the development of the SoundVision Plan for Long Island Sound water quality improvements
- Attended DEC MS4 audit of the Village of Sea Cliff on October 10, 2012