

SCUDDER'S POND SUBWATERSHED PLAN

INTRODUCTION

In 1998, the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee completed a Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for Hempstead Harbor. This plan identified subwatersheds around the harbor, identified sources of contaminants that flowed from each subwatershed and then made recommendations for improvements. Scudder's Pond and the Scudder's Pond subwatershed are part of the Sea Cliff subwatershed, which was identified as one of the most critical subwatersheds in need of remediation. As depicted in Figure 1.1, Scudder's Pond is situated on the eastern shoreline of Hempstead Harbor, towards the head of the harbor. The WQIP recommended that remedial measures be developed for the Scudder's Pond subwatershed since overflow from the pond feeds directly into, and affects Hempstead Harbor. The Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee (HHPC) initiated this study in order to address this need.

This study entails the development of a subwatershed plan for Scudder's Pond, located in the Village of Sea Cliff, Nassau County, New York. The HHPC is spearheading this effort, with cooperation from the Village of Sea Cliff (VSC) and the North Shore Country Club (NSCC), which owns Scudder's Pond and other important portions of the study area. Pursuant to an agreement between the NSCC, the VSC and the Town of Oyster Bay (TOB) made in 1978, a perpetual easement was granted by the NSCC to the VSC and the TOB "to use and permit use of the easement area for unlimited uses, which uses shall not have a significant adverse environmental and ecological effect on said easement area" and a temporary easement was granted to the same parties to perform dredging and other maintenance activities on Scudder's Pond.

The project involves: a review of past studies and remedial actions; an assessment of current conditions within the subwatershed; the development of a subwatershed plan incorporating both structural and non-structural solutions to reduce pollutant loading to Scudder's Pond and ultimately to Hempstead Harbor; and public meetings with nearby property owners to educate them on Best Management Practices (BMPs). This project was funded in part by a matching grant from the New York State Department of State's Division of Coastal Resources under Title 11 of the New York State Environmental Protection Fund, Local Waterfront Revitalization.

This report is organized in three sections as follows:

- Part 1 - Task 2: Examines the historic condition of Scudder's Pond and its subwatershed. Based strictly upon a review of the available pre-existing data and documented site surveys, a data gap analysis was performed and preliminary recommendations were provided. These preliminary recommendations were refined in later Task reports;
- Part 2 – Task 3: Presents detailed information from the field reconnaissance and pond sediment sampling that describes the current condition of the watershed, identifies problem areas and projects pollutant loading for the full build out analysis; and

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- Part 3 – Task 4: Provides recommendations for water quality, drainage, and habitat improvements, including schematic designs and maintenance plans.