

Farmingville, NY – Brookhaven Town Highway Superintendent Daniel P. Losquadro and Councilwoman Jane Bonner announced the completion of a surface water quality protection project at Woodhull Landing Beach in Sound Beach.

During Hurricane Sandy, heavy waves, tidal surges and woody debris tore open the existing gabion baskets—wire baskets filled with rocks, designed to capture storm water for erosion and flood control—and eroded the gabion stone and filter cloth situated at the end of Woodhull Landing Road.

As part of the revitalization project, Brookhaven Highway Department crews replaced the gabion baskets with a more durable gabion mattress surrounded with vinyl sheet pilings to capture and filter as much storm water as possible before it enters the Long Island Sound. Storm water runoff, which empties into the new infrastructure via drainage pipes from Woodhull Landing Road and may contain chemicals, sediment, pesticides and debris, will now be retained, naturally filtered and released gradually via this 34’ by 38’ foot structure. In addition, the gabion revetment, which serves as a stabilized access point to the beach for emergency vehicles, has been reinforced.

The results of the Highway Department’s efforts will create better storm water management and greater erosion control. The total cost for this project, completed using in-house labor, was only $70,000.

“Protecting our surface water quality is a very serious concern, particularly at many beaches on the North Shore,” said Brookhaven Superintendent of Highways Daniel P. Losquadro. “When practical, the use of the Highway Department’s skilled workforce allows us to complete important storm water projects like this at a significant cost savings to taxpayers.”

Councilwoman Jane Bonner said, “The Long Island Sound will be cleaner thanks to the revitalization work done by Superintendent Losquadro and the Highway Department. By continuing to protect our waterways from pollutants, we are preserving them for the generations that follow us.”