

# Town Awarded \$6,000 Grant for Native Grassland Demonstration Project at Town Hall

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## ***Project is a part of Supervisor Romaine's Green Energy and Sustainability Initiative***

**Farmingville, NY** – Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilman Michael Loguercio announced today that the Town of Brookhaven has been awarded a \$6,000 grant for its Native Grassland Demonstration Project at Town Hall from the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District. Each year, the New York Soil and Water Conservation Committee awards districts throughout the state with \$6,000 in funding for a conservation project.

This year, the Town was selected for its plan to install native grassland at Town Hall in order to provide a habitat for wildlife and reduce the need for fertilizer and other lawn chemicals that can impact water quality. The new grassland, which will include native wildflowers, will also reduce energy used for mowing and irrigation. The attractive and low growing plants will enhance aesthetics, preserve scenic vistas and provide a pollinator and wildlife habitat. The Native Grassland Demonstration Project at Town Hall is part of Supervisor Romaine's "Green Energy and Sustainability" initiative, aimed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Town operations by 50% by the year 2020.

Supervisor Romaine said, "It's my intention that the Town should lead by example when it comes to the environment and we are making great strides in reducing our carbon footprint. I am happy to be partnering with the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District on this model project and appreciate the expertise they have provided to the Town's Environmental Protection staff."

Councilman Loguercio said, "Supervisor Romaine has made the environment a number one priority since taking office in 2012. My district, which includes the Carmans River, has benefitted a great deal because of his leadership and I look forward to working with him on more projects like this one at Town Hall."

### **Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone 631-451-6595