

# Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Panico's Resolution to Acquire 8.75 Acres for Open Space Passes with Unanimous Town Board Approval

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## ***In a partnership with Suffolk County, Town of Brookhaven to secure the parcel known as Toppings Farm***

**Farmingville, NY** - At Town of Brookhaven Town Board Meeting on February 26, 2013, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico, along with a unanimous town board, approved the acquisition of property for open space in partnership with the County of Suffolk known as "Toppings Farm." The Town's portion of the purchase price is \$110,000.

"It has long been desirous by the area residents and property owner's association to acquire such parcels to maintain the rural characteristics of the area," commented Brookhaven Town Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico. "This property acquisition will augment the recent acquisitions on the CR 51 corridor and total nearly 120 wooded acres. I thank former Legislator Romaine who spearheaded these efforts during his time in the Suffolk County Legislature for this support then and now as a voting member of the Town Board."

Supervisor Romaine said, "This is an important acquisition for the Town and the County. I was happy to sponsor the legislation as a County Legislator to spearhead the acquisition process. Now as Town Supervisor, I'm pleased to be working again with Councilman Panico to finalize the acquisition. It's location in the Pine Barrens makes Toppings Farm an environmentally significant parcel worthy of preserving as open space."

Toppings Farm, located at Moriches Riverhead Road in Eastport, is an 8.75 wooded tract on the northwest side of Riverhead Road between Eastport Manor Road and Route 111, just after the horse farm. It is in the Pine Barrens Compatible Growth Area.

This site was listed in the CR 51 Land Use Plan as the second most important woodland open space acquisition (The Oaks and adjacent sites were first). Toppings Path goes under CR 111 and extends into undeveloped areas of the Pine Barrens.

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

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