

NEMO Commends Brookhaven Town for its Commitment to Protecting Local Waterways

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Brookhaven, NY - New York State Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) Program Manager Eileen Keenan has commended Brookhaven Town for having a strong stormwater program with well-planned goals and noteworthy accomplishments. NEMO is an educational program for municipal decision makers that strive to protect coastal resources by addressing nonpoint source pollution through illustrations of connection between land use and water quality.

Steps Brookhaven Highway Superintendent Daniel P. Losquadro and Supervisor Romaine have taken to earn this recognition include: Installation of Forge River Watershed education signs, ensuring public outreach programs are well attended, developing the Tuthills Creek Watershed Management Plan with involvement from its Citizens Advisory Committee, receiving continued input from the Forge River Task Force, implementing the Carman's River Conservation and Management Plan, Adopt-A-Spot stewardship sites, instituting a Storm sewer system mapping program, completing a 3-year Illicit Discharge and Elimination study, and effectively implementing construction and post-construction Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan reviews, inspections, enforcements and trainings.

"Affectively managing stormwater runoff proactively saves taxpayer dollars by reducing costs associated with flooding and pollution mitigation," Superintendent Losquadro said. "While maintaining Brookhaven's infrastructure, we have simultaneously protected our precious coastal resources."

Supervisor Ed Romaine said, "Protecting our sensitive waterways and aquifers has been a priority of mine long before I was elected Supervisor. I am proud to have a partner in Highway Superintendent Losquadro who has the same concerns and shares a common goal to assure that our ground and surface water will be clean for generations to come."

Additional steps taken by Superintendent Losquadro and Supervisor Romaine to earn this recognition include: installation of new drainage structures, treatment systems and creation of vegetated areas, a stormwater partnership with the Village of Patchogue to install and maintain storm basin filters in 18 basins with a direct discharge to surface water, the purchase of 10 parcels of land for the preservation of open space, totaling approximately 30 acres, and the purchase of 13 acres for use as recharge basins and natural retention areas.

"The Town of Brookhaven's stormwater program reflects the professionalism and dedication of its reputable staff," said Eileen Keenan, NEMO Program Manager.

Daniel P. Losquadro * Highway Superintendent

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