



**Assemblyman
Fred Thiele**

SAVING THE FORGE RIVER

Satellite Image of Long Island Courtesy of NASA

The Forge River is a critical part of the South Shore Estuary System. However, the river is dying from storm-water runoff, pollution waste and lack of a sufficient tidal flow. The stagnant water is now a breeding ground for ecologically dangerous nitrates and bacteria. This is an ecological disaster.

It is not too late to help. . .

That's why Assemblyman Fred Thiele is working to clean up the river by:

- Securing, with Senator Kenneth P. LaValle, a \$200,000 State Multimodal Transportation Grant in 2006 to implement the first phase of the stormwater abatement project at Overlook Drive to prevent further contamination;
- Providing \$75,000 for the Marine Science Research Center Institute at Stony Brook to conduct sediment and metal analysis of the river bottom;
- Granting \$5,000 to the Save the Forge River organization to help offset their costs of public outreach;
- Obtaining \$238,000 in funding through the Environmental Protection Fund in the 2007-08

State Budget to help the Town of Brookhaven develop the Forge River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, a crucial long-term environmental restoration plan;

- Requesting \$300,000 in Capital Project funding for additional stormwater abatement projects and septic system upgrades; and
- Successfully lobbying the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to place the Forge River on the State Impaired Waters List to ensure that the Forge will be eligible for additional State funding.

As a member of the Assembly's Environmental Conservation Committee, I can assure you of my continued support for remediation and environmental maintenance of the Forge River. For more information on how to get involved, please call my district office at (631) 537-2583 or write to me at 2302 Main Street, Newman Village, Suite A, Bridgehampton, New York 11932.



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