



## Peconic Estuary Program

PEP Program Office, SCDHS – Office of Ecology, 360 Yaphank Avenue, Suite 2B, Yaphank, NY 11980

Dear Hashamomuck Pond Watershed Property Owner,

I'd like to thank those of you who were able to attend the joint Peconic Estuary Program (PEP) and Southold Town Stormwater Runoff remediation presentation and discussion on April 7th. We had a great turnout to kickoff this important project.

For those of you who were not able to make it to the meeting, or those who are interested in reading up on the project, all meeting materials are available online at the Peconic Estuary Program website: <http://peconice.ipower.com/Hashamomuck.html>. These materials are also available at Southold Town Hall and the Southold, Cutchogue, and Mattituck Free Libraries.

### **In summary, the meeting:**

- Included discussions of the status of water quality impairments in Hashamomuck Pond and an introduction to the Peconic Estuary Program-the exciting partnership of federal, state, and local municipalities, as well as non-profits, and civic organizations working together to protect and restore the Peconic Estuary, including Hashamomuck Pond;
- Addressed the problems polluted stormwater runoff can cause, and provided details about the planned road drainage improvements you will see happening around Hashamomuck Pond in coming months;
- Outlined several steps property owners can take around their homes and yards to help make these stormwater remediation projects a success (some of the easier steps included eliminating/reducing fertilizer, pesticide, and herbicide use, limiting the size of your lawn, and working to contain stormwater runoff on your property).

Again, for a full re-cap of the meeting and links to the relevant documents please see:

<http://peconice.ipower.com/Hashamomuck.html> or access the materials at any of the locations noted above.

### **If you'd like to get involved with this project to help ensure its success, you can:**

- Volunteer to become community leader. If you are interested in getting involved or learning more about taking on this type of a role, please contact Jennifer Skilbred, a program partner at the Group for the East End, at (631) 765-6450;
- Join us at a community runoff management demonstration planting in conjunction with North Fork Audubon and Group for the East End at the "Red House" on the North Road in Greenport on May 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 12 noon. This project includes planting an area of native plants that will attract birds and butterflies, an experimental deer deterrent garden, and a stormwater remediation garden, in which we will be replacing a swath of lawn (where the property slopes towards the road) with a variety of native plants that will help reduce runoff to the bay. Come learn some techniques and tips you can apply to your property;
- Join us for a community hike of Arshamomaque Pond Preserve on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. We will meet at the entrance to the preserve on Main Road. Please come and explore this wonderful natural resource and learn more about the PEP's efforts to protect and restore Hashamomuck Pond. This will be a great chance for you and your neighbors to discuss the Pond with each other and with PEP representatives;
- Join us for a community kayak paddle in Hashamomuck Pond on Friday June 26<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM. Come enjoy Hashamomuck Pond from another angle and learn more about the PEP's efforts to protect and restore this amazing natural resource, and your essential role in this process, while spending time with your neighbors outdoors exploring the local estuary!

If you have any questions, would like to register for any of the planned events, or are interested in becoming a community leader, please call Jennifer Skilbred at (631) 765-6450.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Paulsen  
Peconic Estuary Program Coordinator