



## Peconic Estuary Program

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

June 19, 2009

Dear Reeves Bay Watershed Property Owner,

I'd like to thank those of you who were able to attend the joint Peconic Estuary Program (PEP) and Town of Southampton Stormwater Runoff remediation presentation and discussion on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. 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: {HYPERLINK <http://peconice.ipower.com/ReevesBay.html> }. These materials are also available at Southampton Town Hall and the Hampton Bays, Westhampton, and Quogue Libraries.

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

- Included discussions of the status of water quality impairments in Reeves Bay 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 Reeves Bay;
- Addressed the problems polluted stormwater runoff can cause, and provided details about the planned road drainage improvements you will see happening around Reeves Bay 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 include 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: {HYPERLINK <http://peconice.ipower.com/ReevesBay.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;
- Please join us for a beach cleanup on Reeves Bay on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. We will discuss the Peconic Estuary Program's subwatershed plans for the Reeve's Bay area further, while cleaning up the neighborhood shores.
- Please join us on Friday July 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm for a beach exploration. We will share information about some of the shells and marine life you find while strolling local beaches, and discuss ways you can help to protect this amazing ecosystem. Families welcome!

For more information, to register for these events, or if you are interested in becoming a community leader, please call Jennifer Skilbred, the PEP's Public Education and Outreach Coordinator at (631) 765-6450.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Paulsen  
Peconic Estuary Program Coordinator  
Suffolk County Department of Health Services