



Manhasset Bay Protection Committee

Minutes: February 9, 2023, 7:30pm

Great Neck Library

159 Bayview Ave. Great Neck

Attendance: Bob Keane (Chairman, Port Washington North), Nora Haagenon (Mayor, Baxter Estates), Maria Branco (Baxter Estates, alternate), Kevin Braun (Town of North Hempstead), Carey Ye (Kensington), Jennifer Wilson-Pines (Manorhaven), Don Richardson (Plandome), Annie Mendelson (Great Neck), Ebi Victory (Kings Point), Bruce Bent, Sarah Healy (LINAP), Mary Arnold (DEC), Samantha Wilder (Intern), Sarah Deonarine (Director)

Meeting was called to order at 7:40pm with a quorum in attendance.

Note: Action items are in **yellow highlight**. *Motions are in italicized underline.*

The meeting started with a presentation on LINAP (Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan) by Sarah Healy and Mary Arnold (both from NYSDEC; presentation slides are at the end of these minutes).

Discussion & Motion points:

1. *Kevin Braun made a motion to adopt the minutes of January 19, 2023.* Maria Branco seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
2. *Maria Branco made a motion to set a do-not exceed limit of \$800 for the summer sampling season.* Jennifer Wilson-Pines seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The spending limit is for: waterproof notebook, depth gauge, pH standards, electrode storage solutions, and port plugs for the YSI probe.
3. *Maria Branco made a motion to set a do-not exceed limit of \$300 to host two volunteer clean-up events this spring.* Don Richardson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. The costs are for snacks, fun patches, and gloves (this is an overestimate). The two events will be a Saturday morning at Baywalk Park and a Sunday morning at Whitney Pond Park, exact dates TBD.
4. *Kevin Braun made a motion to set a do-not exceed limit of \$3,500 for annual boat tour for elected officials.* Jennifer Wilson-Pines seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. There was some discussion about the importance of the boat tour. But it was agreed that getting elected officials on a boat out of Inspiration Wharf and educating

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director •
- Email: mbpcExec@gmail.com •
- manhassetbay.net •

Updated: 3/20/2023

them on what the Committee does and what the issues on the Bay are is important. Additionally, it counts on the MS4 reports.

5. Deonarine went over the Shellfish Seeding Grant and the need for a shellfish density/bottom survey (~\$48,000), discussion points are below. *Don Richardson made a motion to fund a shellfish density survey at a do-not-exceed amount of \$50,000.* Maria Branco seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.
 - a. The North Shore bays are getting a federal grant for shellfish seeding (Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee (HHPC) is administering it and they will handle the cash outlay – we won't have to). We would do this seeding in addition to what the Town is doing. And it's a lot of seed: we're getting \$100,000; the Town spent \$19,500 for 1 million spat-on-shell (that's the only seed we can do, since Manhasset Bay is closed to shellfishing).
 - b. There was a meeting between the Town of North Hempstead, MBPC, and HHPC on Monday at which Eric Swenson (HHPC) brought up that shellfish seed placed in mud didn't survive, so a shellfish density survey is important and we're the only bay that hasn't had one done. Cashin Associates are the only ones who do it, so it would be a sole source.
 - c. This would be entirely funded from the Committee's reserve and would not be covered under a grant.
 - d. A question came up about using mussels, but mussels are more susceptible to warmer water than oysters.
6. The Committee then discussed the "Housing Compact" in the Governor's Proposed State Budget which requires rezoning to multi-family dwellings anywhere within 0.5mi of a rail station without environmental review. The Committee decided a comment letter was in order. **Deonarine will draft a letter for Committee review.** This vote will be at the next meeting.
7. The Committee then discussed whether to send a follow-up dues letter to municipal members, but decided it was not necessary.
8. **Deonarine will draft a comment letter to the Army Corps on their proposed surge barriers for Committee review.** This vote will be at the next meeting.

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director •
- Email: mbpcExec@gmail.com •
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Updates, Reminders, & Municipal Updates:

- As a reminder: the MS4 reporting year ends on March 9th
- Joint Protection Committee Virtual Symposium on May 11th at 7pm will be focused on nitrogen reduction, specifically on wastewater
- DEC¹/Marcellino water quality monitoring grant updates – we have one bill outstanding and then the grant will be done (once it is paid and reimbursed); reports from the data are forthcoming.
- WQIP² -- the next item for Committee review will be the community engagement plan, expect to see it soon. Most recently, the Committee supplied NPV with notes on what projects were completed from the 1999 Plan.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Upcoming meetings: March 16th, April 20th
- Joint Protection Committee Webinar on May 11th; 7 – 8:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

¹ NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

² Water Quality Improvement Plan; funded by grant from NYS Department of State

- Sarah Deonarine, Executive Director •
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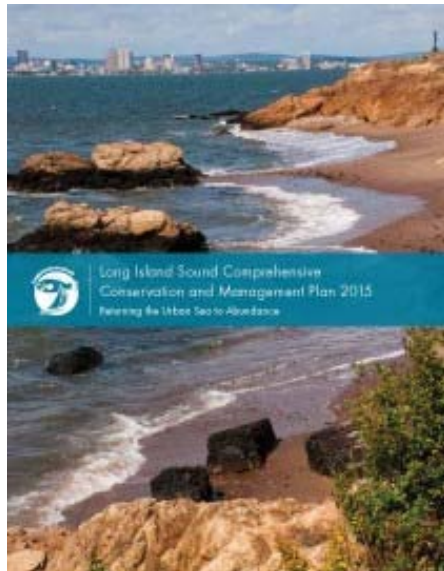
Coordination between NYS DEC Programs:

**Long Island Sound Study (LISS) &
Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan (LINAP)**





What is the Long Island Sound Study (LISS)?



The EPA, New York, and Connecticut formed the Long Island Sound Study (LISS) in 1985, a bi-state partnership consisting of federal and state agencies, user groups, concerned organizations, and individuals dedicated to restoring and protecting the Sound.

1. **Clean Waters and Healthy Watersheds**
2. Thriving Habitats and Abundant Wildlife
3. Sustainable and Resilient Communities
4. Sound Science and Inclusive Management



LISS Regional Coordinator - Division of Water

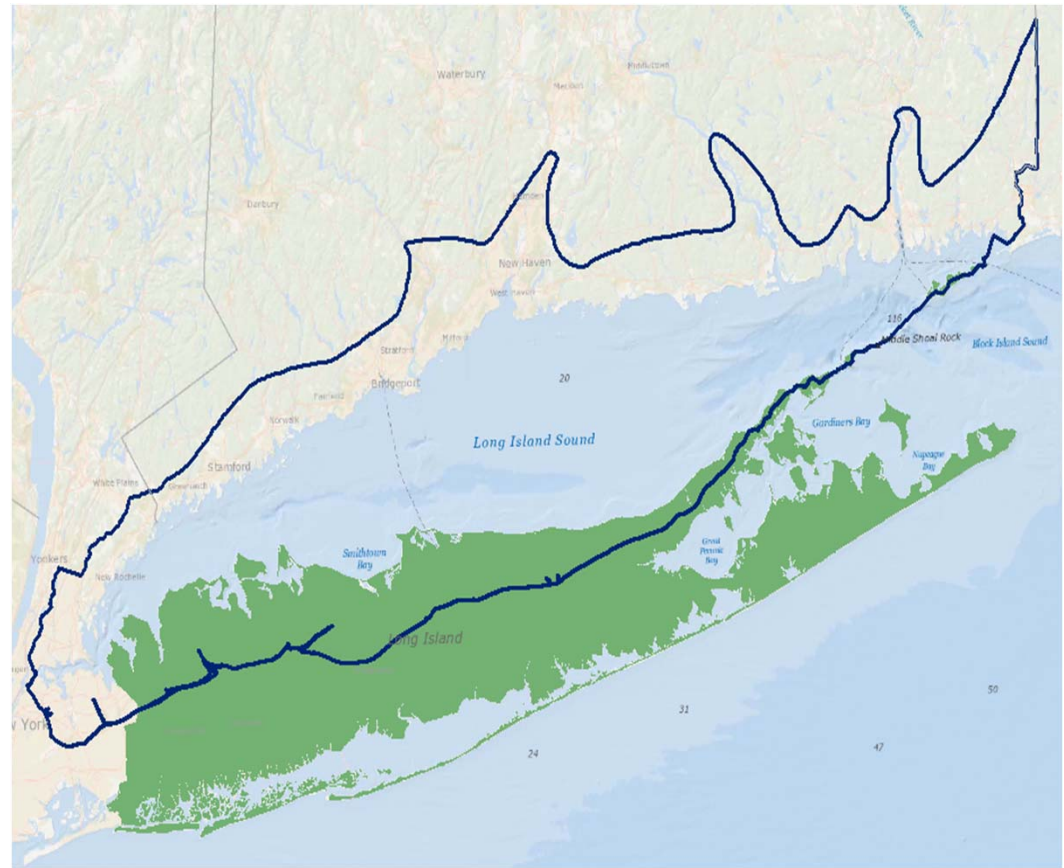
- Build partnerships with and assist municipalities in evaluating and assessing local policies and programs to determine how they align with the LISS Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)
- Assist municipalities to funding opportunities to implement water quality improvement projects in the Long Island Sound watershed (ex: WQIP, LISFF).
 - Development and management of NYS DEC Funding Finder
- Facilitate and provide technical support for NY municipalities.





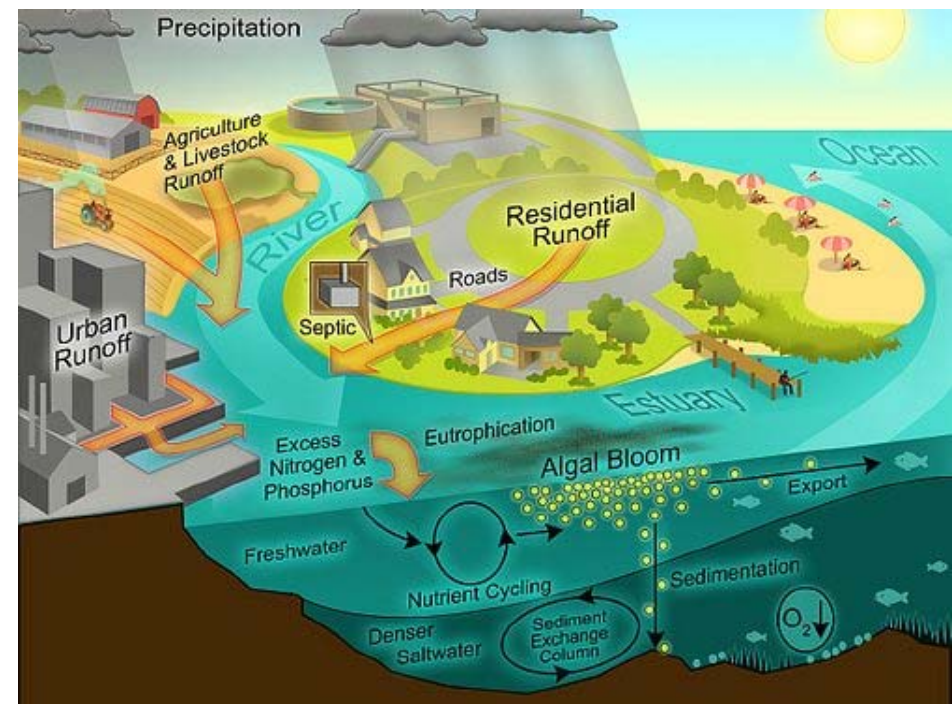
Long Island Sound Study
A Partnership to Restore and Protect the Sound

LISS v. LINAP



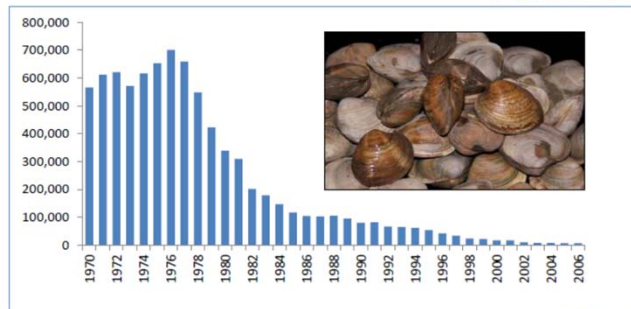
Sources of Nitrogen

- Human Waste
 - Municipal wastewater treatment plants
 - Residential cesspools and septic systems
- Fertilizer
- Stormwater Runoff
- Atmospheric Deposition



Nitrogen Impacts

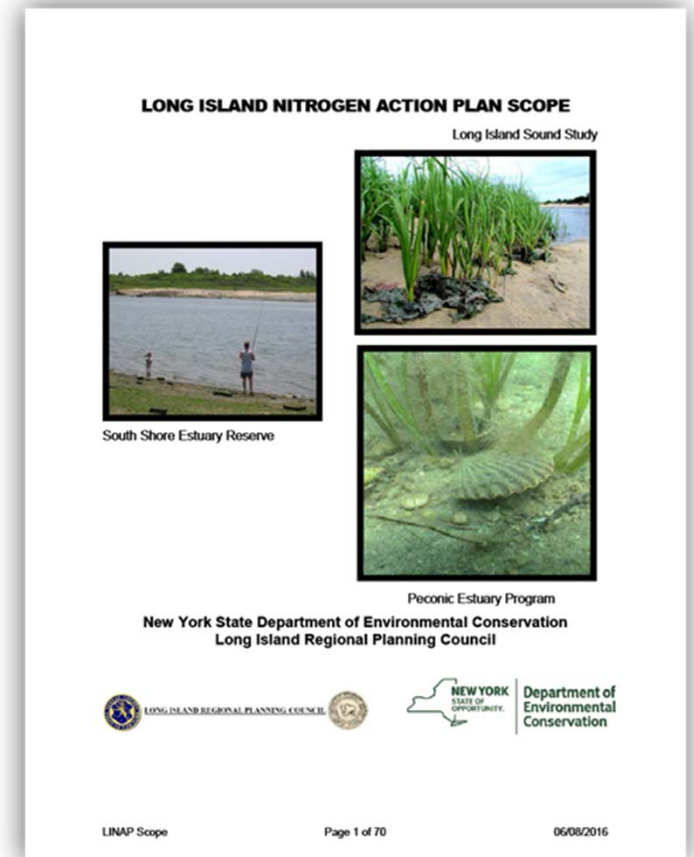
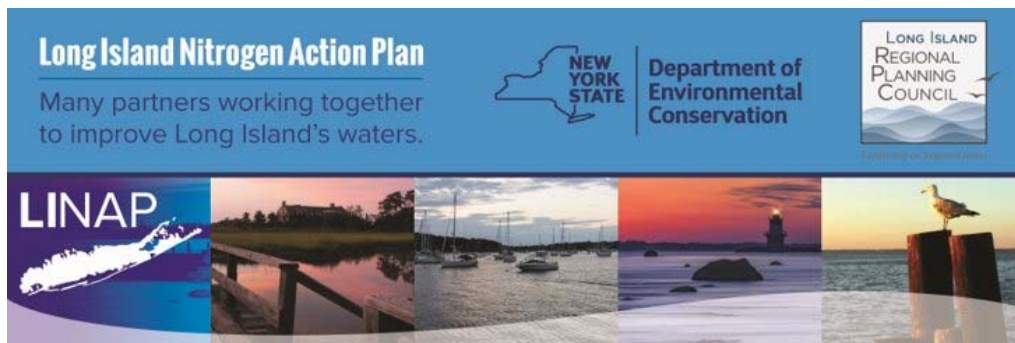
- Drinking water impairment
- Fish kills
- Shellfish die off
- Salt marsh degradation
- Loss of recreational opportunities
- Brown tides, rust tides, etc.



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What is LINAP?

- Multi-year initiative to reduce nitrogen in Long Island's surface and ground waters
- Started in 2015
- Focus is on Nassau and Suffolk Counties
- Scoping document guides program



The Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan

A broad, multi-year initiative to reduce nitrogen impacts on water quality

Goals:

- Assess nitrogen pollution in LI waters
- Identify sources of nitrogen to surface and ground waters
- Establish nitrogen reduction endpoints
- Develop implementation plans to achieve reductions



Role as the Regional LINAP Coordinator:

- Assist development and implementation of LINAP initiatives.
- Build partnerships among stakeholders to collaboratively work on nitrogen reductions that align with the LINAP Scope.
- Coordinate at the local level with various partners to determine how their projects align with the LINAP initiative.

DEC

- Fertilizer Management
- Hydromodification Feasibility Study
- Septic System Replacement Fund
- Nutrient Bioextraction

LIRPC

- STEM
- Nitrogen Smart Communities Program
- LI Garden Rewards Program

USGS

- Solute Transport Model

Suffolk County

- Subwatersheds Wastewater Plan
- Septic Improvement Program

Nassau County

- Bay Park Convergence Project
- 9 Element Plan
- S.E.P.T.I.C Program

CCWT & SBU

- Innovative Alternative Septic Systems
- Permeable Reactive Barrier
- Urine Separation



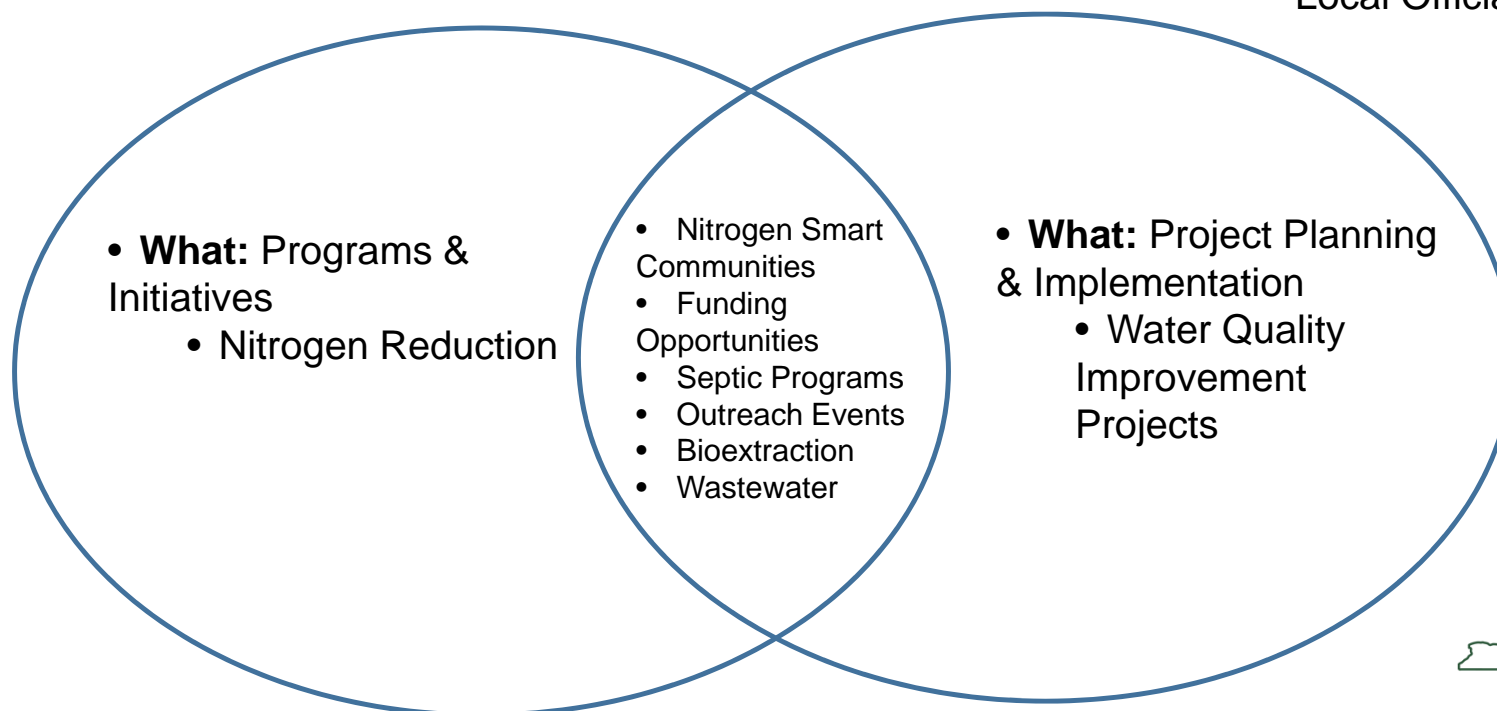
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LINAP Coordinator

- **Where:** Island-wide
- **Who:** Long Island Environmental Organizations & Partnerships

LISS Coordinator

- **Where:** North Shore
- **Who:** Municipalities, Protection Committees, Local Officials



Contact

Mary Arnold
Long Island Sound Study
Regional Coordinator
NYS DEC Division of Water

mary.arnold@dec.ny.gov

631-380-3335

Sarah Healy
Long Island Nitrogen Action Plan
Regional Coordinator
NYS DEC Division of Water

sarah.healy@dec.ny.gov

631-444-0426



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