

NEW YORK

AMITYVILLE, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	14
Land Use	8
Open Space	5
Quality of Response	8
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	38

GOOD

County: **Suffolk**

2000 Population: **9,441**

Area (in square miles): **2.1**

Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):
3 (single-family homes)

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

► Village was unable to provide information regarding sewage treatment systems.

Sewage Collection Systems

► Village was unable to provide information regarding sewage collection systems.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

► Village was unable to provide information regarding whether or not the village is served by any septic systems.

Stormwater Runoff

► Street sweeping performed: Yes. Twice a week on the main roads, and as needed on other roads ✓

► Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Twice annually ✓

► Catch basins contain hood or other device to remove floatables or sediment: Yes. Some catch basins in problem areas are equipped with hoods ✓

► Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. Dry detention ponds ✓. Sump pumps ✓. Tidal pools ✓

► Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. The program is administered by the Town of Babylon ✓

► Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. In parks ✓

► Percentage of municipality served by separate storm sewer system: 35%

► Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓

► Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓

► Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓

► Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: The village's Planning Board or Building Department sometimes stipulates that post-construction runoff must be limited to some percentage of pre-construction runoff.

► Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual and water quality monitoring ✓

► Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. Development limited in floodplains and wetlands ✓

► Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: Yes. Staff in the Department of Public Works is responsible for enforcing stormwater and erosion regulations ✓

► Number of enforcement actions taken: None in the last two years.

Water Quality Impacts

► Water quality related impacts: The Great South Bay experienced some shellfish bed closures (January 1998 to January 2000).

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: No

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Yes. 50 new housing units, 20 new commercial units, and 8 new industrial units (in the last two years).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: Yes

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting open space ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Transfer of development rights ✓✓. Planned unit development.
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Planning Board with five paid members, a Zoning Board of Appeals with five paid members, a Building Department with paid staff, a Historical Review Committee with volunteer members, and a part-time engineer.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 5 (August 1998 to August 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 3
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 3 (August 1998 to August 2000).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: All 3 resulted in findings of significant nega-

tive environmental impact, including low-level traffic, low-level sewage, and drainage problems.

- ▶ Proposals denied due to negative EIS: None
- ▶ Proposals requiring amendment based on EIS: None
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In the planning stages.

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the village, approximately 5% of the village’s shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: One-half acre ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. Village is attempting to acquire a few parcels on the Amityville River and one adjacent to the wetlands of Ketcham’s Creek ✓. Village recently acquired property on the Narrasketuck Creek ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes ✓
- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. Program has so far protected 1.1 acres ✓.

BABYLON, TOWN OF

Water Quality	0
Land Use	14
Open Space	5
Quality of Response	7
Return Rate	2
Total Raw Score	28

FAIR

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **211,792**
 Area (in square miles): **52.3**

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **0.12 (non-tidal)**

Residential building permits issued (1998-1999):

251 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)

Water Quality

► Babylon did not complete this section of the survey.

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

- Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- Development planned for these zones: Yes
- Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes. Town adopted a local law in 1989 to enforce the NYS Coastal Erosion Management Areas program at the town level. ✓

Growth and Development

► New development: Yes. 160 new single-family residential units, 122 new multifamily residential units, 12 new commercial units, and 11 new industrial units (January 1999 to January 2001).

Planning and Management Tools

- Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓.
- Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Overlay zoning. Town has two overlay districts:

the Hotel District and the Transfer Station District ✓. Town has also utilized a building moratorium. In 1983, a nine-month moratorium was adopted in coastal beach communities to evaluate the continued development of this area ✓✓. Town has also utilized conservation easement as a planning tool. It is used around industrially and commercially zoned parcels near sensitive habitat such as wetlands ✓✓.

- Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes. Town has entertained applications that proposed cluster development and shared parking ✓.
- Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes. Adopted in 1998. ✓
- Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓

Administration

- Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Department of Environmental Control with a paid staff, a Planning Board with a paid staff, a Zoning Board of Appeals with a paid staff, and a volunteer Environmental Conservation Commission.
- Applications for new development submitted: 132 (January 1999 to January 2001).
- Applications for new development approved: 128
- Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 2 (January 1999 to January 2001).
- EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: Neither application resulted in findings of significant negative impact.
- Proposals denied due to negative EIS: None
- Proposals requiring amendment based on EIS: 1 proposal required an amendment after the EIS. The type of environmental impacts identified involved habitat, surface and groundwater, traffic, and noise.
- State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: No. The town prepared a draft Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan in the early 1990s, but it was rejected by the public during the hearings.

Open Space

Public Access

▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the town, approximately 16% of the town’s bay shoreline is publicly accessible and 89% of the town’s ocean shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: 6,100, which constitutes 18% of the town’s area ✓
 ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. Town participates in the Suffolk County Open Space Acquisition Program and has nominated 18 additional parcels for acquisition totaling 308 acres ✓

Habitat

▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. Town has protections for both piping plovers and least terns, including symbolic fencing, signage, and nest enclosures ✓✓. The town allows vehicles on the beaches during breeding season ✗.
 ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: None
 ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. An acquisition program, which has protected 1,045 acres thus far. The town began actively identifying parcels for acquisition in 1960, and acquired its first site in 1961. The town updates its acquisition list annually to identify new sites for donations or county acquisition. The program is currently based on land donations and maintenance/management agreements with the county on county acquired lands ✓. The town also had a conservation easement program, but only one easement was ever adopted, for a one-acre parcel in 1984. The program was discontinued because of reduced staff.
 ▶ Coastal protection programs: The town has a wetland restoration program and a dune management program funded by federal and state grants through ISTEA, the State Environmental Bond Act, and the Clean Water Act ✓. Funds are used to purchase sand fencing, beach grass, and other coastal plants.

BROOKHAVEN, TOWN OF

Water Quality	13
Land Use	17
Open Space	4
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	46

GOOD

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **448,248**
 Area (in square miles): **259.3**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **2.15 non-tidal**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **3,674 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)**

Water Quality

▶ The town is a member of the South Shore Estuary Reserve Council, and in this capacity it has worked to improve the management of Long Island’s south shore bays ✓. The town has recently secured a variety of grants to manage and restore the coastal system ✓.

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None

Sewage Collection Systems

▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: No. Town does not own or manage any of its sewage collection system.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDS: Parts of the town are served by septic systems, but the town was not able to provide the exact percentage.
 ▶ New OSDSs still being approved on lots ¼ acre or smaller: Yes
 ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: Yes. If facility lies within 150 feet of wetlands or a water body ✓.

- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDs: No. Authority lies with the county.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes ✓. But town unable to provide information regarding frequency.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Near town facilities ✓
- ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓
- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Yes. New development must contain all runoff on site. ✓
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Development restricted near wetlands, such that there can be no net loss of wetlands ✓
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. Impervious surface coverage limited on a lot; percentage allowed varies with the zoning ✓
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: No
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (January 1998 to January 2000).

Marinas

- ▶ Local regulations requiring marinas to have pump-out stations: Yes ✓

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Environmentally sensitive siting and/or design criteria for marinas: Yes. Need for adequate tidal flushing must be taken into account ✓

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: Yes. Beach closures and shelfish bed closures (January 1998 to January 2000).

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Yes
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes. Regulations include Chapter 81—Wetlands & Waterways, which regulates activities within 150 feet of wetlands and surface waterways—and Chapter 33—Flood Damage Prevention, which implements the Federal Flood Insurance regulations.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Unable to provide any information (for the last two years).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: No

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓. Protecting open space ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Cluster development ✓. Transfer of development rights ✓✓. Building moratorium ✓✓. Planned unit development and clearing and buffer covenants ✓.
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality participates in watershed-based planning: Yes. Town participates in the planning

process for the Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan for Mastic-Shirley.

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A paid Division of Environmental Protection, a paid Division of Planning, a paid Planning Board, a paid Board of Zoning Appeals, and a volunteer Conservation Advisory Council.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Over 1,000 (January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 95%
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Unable to provide any information (for the period January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In the planning stages.

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: 50% of the town’s shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: 20,000 ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. By acquisition, transfer of development rights, and land swaps ✓.
- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes: the Joseph Macchia Environmental Preservation Capital Reserve Fund. Funds are also available through the Open Space and Drinking Water Protection Act of 1999 ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. Both ✓.
- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): None. Although according to NYDEC, the town has piping plovers ✗. Vehicles are allowed on beaches during breeding season ✗.

- ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: None
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. Both ✓.
- ▶ Program for habitat restoration: Yes. Projects are currently underway to restore 1 acre of tidal wetlands and 3 acres of hard clam habitat.
- ▶ Coastal protection programs: Yes. For dunes and coastal areas through its Wetland & Waterways Permits, which regulate activities within 150 feet of surface waters ✓.

EAST HAMPTON, TOWN OF

Water Quality	33
Land Use	21
Open Space	13
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	79

OUTSTANDING

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **19,719**
 Area (in square miles): **74.3**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **0.1 (non-tidal)**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **676 (single-family homes)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None discharge into the Harbor Bight.
- ▶ Plans for responding to increases in sewage treatment capacity demand: Yes. By implementing water conservation programs ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. In part.
- ▶ Program to detect illegal/improper uses of the system: Yes. Program consists of a sanitation inspector on-call ✓.

- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: 10 (September 1999 to September 2000) ✓
- ▶ Other collection system related programs in municipality: A road runoff abatement program ✓

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: Over 95% of the town's population is served by septic systems.
- ▶ New OSDs still being approved on lots ¼-acre or smaller: Yes
- ▶ Regular OSDS inspections or pumpouts required: Conducted as needed.
- ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of OSDs found to need repair or replacement: Approximately 50 septic systems fail per year; these are then replaced. The failures are geographically concentrated.
- ▶ Number of OSDS inspections in response to complaints: Approximately 100 (September 1999 to September 2000).
- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDs: Authority lies with the Suffolk County Department of Health.
- ▶ Applications for new OSDs received: Around 200 were submitted to the county (September 1999 to September 2000), all of which were approved.
- ▶ Number of OSDS inspectors in municipality: 1 part-time inspector available to inspect septic systems ✓
- ▶ OSDS enforcement actions taken: 10 (September 1999 to September 2000) ✓
- ▶ Other OSDS-related programs in municipality: Town has stronger septic setback standards than Suffolk County for areas in the Harbor Protection Overlay District ✓

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Of all streets 4 times a year ✓

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point X for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Once every 3 years ✓
- ▶ Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. Each of these mechanisms is maintained as needed, but no regular schedule. Wet detention ponds ✓. Dry detention ponds ✓. Sand filters ✓. Constructed stormwater wetlands ✓. Bioretention ✓
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. On parks and other public lands ✓
- ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No X
- ▶ Program to detect/correct illegal connections to the storm sewer system: Yes ✓
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: In progress ✓
- ▶ Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Yes. New subdivisions must contain all runoff on site ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Town has a Harbor Protection Overlay District, in which development is regulated to protect the coastal areas ✓
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. In steep slope areas ✓. In floodplains ✓. In wetlands ✓. In areas with highly erodible soils defined by the Soil Conservation Service ✓. Limits on impervious surface coverage ✓. Town has a Stormwater Recharge Restriction Overlay Zone ✓
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Approximately 10 each year ✓

Marinas

- ▶ Local regulations requiring marinas to have pumpout stations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmentally sensitive siting and/or design criteria for marinas: Yes. Criteria take into account the need for adequate tidal flushing ✓

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: Yes. Beach closures and/or advisories and shellfish-bed closures (September 1998 to September 2000). The shellfish closures are continued on an ad hoc basis, depending on rainfall. Water quality in several embayments is also deteriorating as measured by habitat loss.

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: No
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: 450 new housing units, 20 new commercial units, and 5 new industrial units (September 1998 to September 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: No. But town expects to be in another ten years.

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Cluster development ✓. Purchased development rights to protect farmland and other lands ✓✓. A building moratorium ✓✓. Conservation easements ✓✓.

- ▶ Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality participates in watershed-based planning: Yes ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Natural Resources Department, a Planning Department, and a Zoning Board.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 25 (September 1998 to September 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 10 had been approved as of September 2000.
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 5 (September 1998 to September 2000).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: All 5 resulted in findings of significant negative environmental impacts.
- ▶ Proposals requiring amendment based on EIS: All 5 were approved with amendments. The environmental impacts identified involved groundwater, habitat, steep slopes, Native American artifacts, and wetlands.
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Other land use programs in municipality: Town has prioritized the reuse of older areas ✓

Open Space**Public Access**

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the town, 95% of the town’s shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: 15,000 ✓
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: Yes ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes ✓

- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes ✓

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: In progress ✓
- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes ✓. Vehicles not allowed in areas where there are piping plovers or least terns during the breeding season ✓.
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. The program has protected around 500 acres of wetlands in the last 10 years ✓✓.
- ▶ Program for habitat restoration: In progress ✓
- ▶ Coastal protection programs: Yes. Coastal setbacks of 50 to 100 feet ✓.
- ▶ Other public-access or open space related programs: Town has helped develop a system of trails linking all parts of town and Montauk point ✓. The town has a farmland protection program ✓.

EAST HAMPTON, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	8
Land Use	3
Open Space	4
Quality of Response	5
Return Rate	4
Total Raw Score	24

FAIR

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **1,334**
 Area (in square miles): **4.8**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):
34 (single-family homes)

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None that discharge into the Harbor Bight.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage-collection system: No

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point X for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+
Good: 35–50
Fair: 20–34
Needs improvement: 0–19

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: 100%
- ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: Yes ✓
- ▶ Sanitary survey performed in the past 10 years: Village unable to provide information.
- ▶ Number of OSDSs found to need repair or replacement: Village unable to provide information (for the period March 1998 to March 2000).
- ▶ Number of OSDS inspections in response to complaints: 3 (March 1999 to March 2000).
- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: No. Authority lies with Suffolk County.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Approximately twice a week ✓.
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Twice annually ✓.
- ▶ Catch basins contain hood or other device to remove floatables or sediment: Yes. Catch basins are equipped with grates ✓.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: No X
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction ✓.
- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓.
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Regulations restrict development near streams, wetlands, or coastal areas, but village did not provide specifics.
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. In stormwater recharge areas ✓. In wetlands ✓.

- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: Yes. 1 professional staff person ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Unable to provide information (for the period March 1998 to March 2000).

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. In part.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. In part. The village regulates activities within the Coastal Erosion Hazard Area defined by NYDEC, including construction of structures, and other actions that alter the condition of land. These activities are generally prohibited, but permits are available from the village and some variances may be granted by the village's Zoning Board of Appeals according to certain conditions.
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: The village regulates construction activities within areas of special flood hazard as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Construction and other development are prohibited in these areas without permits granted by the village after the village has reviewed applications for the safety of the development from flooding. Variances may also be granted from some flood hazard regulations by the village's Zoning Board of Appeals according to certain conditions.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Unable to provide information (for the period March 1998 to March 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely "built out": Unable to provide any information.

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: In progress. Village regulates activities on its beaches. The village regulates activities in wetland areas, buffer areas around wetlands, and other activities that directly affect wetlands ✓. The activities regulated include draining, dredging, excavation, dumping,

filling, construction of structures, roads, or other obstructions, installation of septic tanks or sewer outfalls, and any other activity which substantially impairs any of the functions or benefits of wetlands. These activities are generally prohibited without permits granted by the village, in wetland areas and in buffer areas of 125 to 200 feet surrounding wetlands ✓. The village provides for cluster subdivisions ✓.

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Unable to provide any information (for the period March 1998 to March 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Unable to provide any information (for the period March 1998 to March 2000).
- ▶ Other land use programs in municipality: Yes. Village regulates activities on its beaches.

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the village, the majority of its shoreline is publicly accessible, but the village was unable to provide information regarding the percentage that is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Description of coastline geography: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. By purchasing various parcels with easements ✓.
- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Not yet. Village is planning for a dedicated fund.

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes ✓

- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. Regulations protect the nesting areas of protected birds such as piping plovers and least terns; nesting areas are to be fenced, roped, or flagged by the village as soon as they are established ✓
- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: The village has adopted a wetlands map which delineates the boundaries and types of all wetlands in the village ✓

HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	17
Land Use	6
Open Space	5
Quality of Response	10
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	41

GOOD

County: **Westchester**

2000 Population: **7,648**

Area (in square miles): **2**

Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):

7 (single-family homes)

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage-treatment plants located in municipality: None that discharge into the Harbor Bight.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. In part.
- ▶ Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) conducted since 1989: Yes ✓. In 1996. The entire collection system was evaluated ✓. The evaluation found some inflow and infiltration.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (March 1999 to March 2000).
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 8 sewer blockages (March 1999 to March 2000), but there was

no significant overflow; all impact was felt in private homes.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: Less than 1%
- ▶ New OSDs still being approved on lots ¼ acre or smaller: No more septsics will be allowed in the village ✓

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. No information provided regarding frequency ✓
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Annually ✓
- ▶ Catch basins contain hood or other device to remove floatables or sediment: Yes. Village requires oil separators for parking lots ✓
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. Participates in Westchester County’s program ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. In parks ✓
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes. Although this inventory was conducted some time ago and it is somewhat out-of-date ✓
- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction on steep slopes ✓
- ▶ Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Post-construction runoff must be no more than pre-construction runoff ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+
Good: 35–50
Fair: 20–34
Needs improvement: 0–19

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. Development limited in steep slope areas ✓. Development limited in floodplains ✓. Impervious surface coverage limited in some zoning districts ✓.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (March 1998 to March 2000).

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: The village has felt the impact of the contamination of the Hudson River. Contaminants include PCBs, PAHs, and possibly heavy metals, from former industrial sites on the river. River sediment and fish have been found to be contaminated.

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Yes
- ▶ Regulations on development and redevelopment in these areas: Yes

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Yes. 7 new housing units and 1 commercial unit (March 1998 to March 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: No

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Ordinances protect trees ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Overlay zoning ✓. Cluster development ✓. Trail easements ✓.
- ▶ Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: The village has a master plan that guides land use decisions, although it has not been formally adopted.
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes. It recommends a conservation overlay zone on large land tracts adjacent to major roads, and it supports the expansion of a railway system.

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: A Planning Board, which is composed of volunteers with one paid staff person to assist, a volunteer Zoning Board of Appeals, and a volunteer Conservation Advisory Commission.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 8 (March 1998 to March 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 8
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 1.
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: Application is still pending.
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In the planning stages. The village has completed the inventory and analysis, and is currently preparing the coastal policies and land use recommendations.

Open Space**Public Access**

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the village, 2% of the village’s shoreline is accessible to the public. This is because about 50% of the shoreline is bordered by Metro North Railroad tracks with riprap bulkhead, 30% is landfill with contamination issues enclosed by riprap, and about 18% is deteriorating timber or sheetmetal bulkhead. There is one tiny beach.

- ▶ New private waterfront development required to provide public access: Yes ✓

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: A 1991 inventory showed 198.76 acres ✓. Since 1991, two more parcels have been acquired and a third acquisition is pending ✓.
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes, as it redevelops its waterfront. The village will require public access to the entire riverfront, which will include an esplanade and parks ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: A natural resource inventory is in progress ✓.
- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None

ISLIP, TOWN OF

Water Quality	19
Land Use	19
Open Space	11
Quality of Response	8
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	60

OUTSTANDING

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **322,612**
 Area (in square miles): **105.3**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **0.01 tidal; 0.08 non-tidal**
 Residential building permits issued (1998-1999): **847 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Town was unable to provide information regarding the town’s sewage treatment system.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Town was unable to provide information regarding the town’s sewage collection systems.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: The majority of development in the town uses septic systems, but the town was unable to provide information regarding the exact percentage.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: No. But an outfall inventory is being prepared.
- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes ✓. Unable to provide information regarding frequency.
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: No. Only when they fail or when the town receives complaints.
- ▶ Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. Wet detention ponds ✓. Dry detention ponds ✓. Constructed stormwater wetlands ✓. Bioretention ✓.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes ✓
- ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Inventory in progress, using a grant received from the state ✓.
- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓.
- ▶ Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓.
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. The town has an overlay district for wetlands and watercourses that reduces the density of, or prohibits, development in wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. In steep slope areas ✓. In floodplains ✓. Limits on impervious surface coverage ✓.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Yes. Town’s zoning enforcement officials enforce stormwater and erosion regulations ✓.
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: 30 (in the past 30 years) ✓.
- ▶ Other runoff or stormwater pollution programs: Planning Board encourages and sometimes mandates

clustered residential development to reduce roadway surface ✓. Town sometimes requires natural parking areas to avoid constructing more impervious surface coverage ✓.

Marinas

► Local regulations requiring marinas to have pump-out stations: Yes ✓

Water Quality Impacts

► Water quality related impacts: Yes. Shellfish-bed closures occur after heavy rainfall events due to excess nutrients from fertilizers, pesticides, silt, etc. entering into waterways via runoff. Brown tide normally hits the town's canals in September or October, but in the past year it started in May or June, and no one knows why. Beach closures.

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- Development planned for these zones: No
- Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: The town has a wetlands and watercourse permit that regulates some development and redevelopment in these areas.

Growth and Development

- New development: Around 600 new housing units, and over a million square feet of commercial and industrial construction (in the last few years).
- Municipality considers itself completely "built out": Approximately 90%

Planning and Management Tools

- Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓.

- Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Overlay zoning ✓. Cluster development ✓. Transfer of development rights ✓✓. Building moratorium ✓✓. Conservation easement ✓✓. Planned unit development.
- Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓

Administration

- Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. An Environmental Department, a Planning Board, and a Zoning Board, the staff of which are all paid.
- Applications for new development submitted: Around 250 (in the last few years).
- Applications for new development approved: 200
- Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Approximately 25 in the last few years.
- EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: Unable to provide any information.
- Proposals requiring amendment based on EIS: All required amendments. Environmental impacts identified involved traffic, drainage, noise, effluents, and aesthetics.
- State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: A plan is in the planning stage; the draft is 70% complete.

Open Space

Public Access

- Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the town, 40% of the shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- Acres of protected open space other than beaches: 8,500 ✓
- Open space inventory prepared: Yes ✓
- Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes ✓. Town also plans to protect more open space through transfer of development rights. Although it

does not have a formal program to do so, on an ad hoc basis it does make some transfer of development-right arrangements ✓

► Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: County and state funding.

Habitat

► Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. A wetlands inventory ✓

► Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): None. Although town has piping plover nesting within its boundaries. According to the town, they are located on state and federal property, and are managed by these entities. Vehicles are not allowed on beaches during breeding season; they are restricted to a central road in the middle of Fire Island ✓

► Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes ✓

► Program for habitat restoration: Yes. A program to restore habitats through wetland restoration requirements is in the development approval process ✓

► Other public access or open space related programs: Town used tax abatement to acquire 157 acres of development rights ✓. With federal assistance, the town helped create a 100-acre grasslands preserve in West Sayville ✓. The town acquired and manages the South Shore nature preserve ✓

LINDENHURST, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	9
Land Use	9
Open Space	3
Quality of Response	8
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	32

FAIR

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **27,819**
 Area (in square miles): **3.8**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):
26 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE
 NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point X for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE
Outstanding: 50+
Good: 35–50
Fair: 20–34
Needs improvement: 0–19

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

► Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None that discharge to the Harbor Bight.

Sewage Collection Systems

► Municipality manages sewage collection system: Village does not own or manage any of its sewage collection system.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

► Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: Less than 10%.

► Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: Authority lies with the county.

Stormwater Runoff

► Street sweeping performed: Yes. Of all residential streets 10 times a year, and of streets in the business district once a week ✓

► Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. As needed ✓

► Catch basins contain hood or other device to remove floatables or sediment: Yes. Catch basins are equipped with grates to catch large floatables ✓

► Program to collect household hazardous waste: No X.

► Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. In public parks ✓

► Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓

► Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓

► Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓

- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Limits on amount of impervious surface coverage ✓
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Enforcement is the responsibility of Building Department staff ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (December 1997 to December 1999).

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: Unable to provide information (for the period December 1997 to December 1999).

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Village provided conflicting information regarding whether or not it lies in a FEMA floodplain area.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Village provided conflicting information regarding whether or not it lies in a Coastal Zone Hazard Area.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Yes. 20 new housing units and 2 new commercial units (December 1997 to December 1999).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: Yes

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting open space ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Building moratorium ✓✓. Planned unit development.
- ▶ Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No

- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Planning Board with paid members, a Zoning Board with paid members, a Zoning Inspector, and a Building Inspector.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Approximately 30 applications (December 1997 to December 1999).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 25
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Unable to provide any information.

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Less than 10% of the village’s shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: 50 ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. Village has general, but not specific, plans ✓

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. Approximately 15 acres of wetlands have been protected through acquisition or easement ✓

LONG BEACH, CITY OF

Water Quality	7
Land Use	6
Open Space	3
Quality of Response	7
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	26

FAIR

County: **Nassau**
 2000 Population: **35,462**
 Area (in square miles): **2.1**

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):

50 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)

Water Quality**Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)**

► Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: Yes.

The Water Pollution Control sewage treatment plant, with a design capacity of 7.5 MGD, is located in the city.

► Municipality has implemented water conservation programs: Yes. Ordinances passed in the 1980s are geared at utilizing water-saving devices and limiting lawn irrigation and car washing during the summer months ✓.

► Post-certification training program for treatment-plant employees: City participates in a seminar series for post-certification training for treatment plant operators and employees in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. This training is encouraged, but not required ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

► Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. In its entirety.

► Program established to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I): No. But city is actively replacing deteriorated sewer lines during road reconstruction activities.

► Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 5 sewer-line leaks and 189 sewer blockages in the past year. Overflow was bypassed via pumps to downstream manholes.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

► Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: 0%

Stormwater Runoff

► Street sweeping performed: Yes. Throughout the municipality, monthly in commercial areas ✓.

► Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Although due to limited equipment and staff, scheduled cleanings are often suspended.

► Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. Participates in the county's program ✓.

► Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes. Permanent stormwater controls required to contain on-site property runoff ✓.

► Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓.

► Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Development limited in flood-plain areas ✓.

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

► Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the city.

► Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the city.

► Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes

► Development planned for these zones: Yes

► Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes

Growth and Development

► New development: Yes. 72 housing units, 2 stores, and 1 nursing facility (January 1998 to January 2000).

Planning and Management Tools

► Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓.

► Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. City has used a building moratorium ✓ ✓.

► Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No

Administration

► Professional planner on staff: No

- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A volunteer Environmental Advisory Board and a volunteer Zoning Board.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Unable to provide any information (for the period January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: Unable to provide any information (for the period January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 1 (January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: None
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In progress

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the city, all of the city’s ocean shoreline is accessible to the public, and around 50% of bay and canal shoreline are accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: City has some protected open space in the form of recreational fields, but was unable to provide information regarding exact number of acres ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. City

coordinates with the Town of Hempstead Department of Waterways and Conservation ✓. Vehicles are not allowed on beaches ✓.

- ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: None

MASSAPEQUA PARK, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	3
Land Use	3
Open Space	1
Quality of Response	7
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	17

NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

County: **Suffolk**

2000 Population: **17,499**

Area (in square miles): **2.2**

Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **7 (single-family homes)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None that discharge into the Harbor Bight.
- ▶ Municipality has implemented water conservation programs: Yes. Its programs are controlled by the Massapequa Water District ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: No. The village does not own or manage any of its sewage collection system.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: 0%

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Of the entire village weekly ✓.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. Participates in the Town of Oyster Bay’s program ✓.

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point X for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. In parks and around publicly owned buildings ✓
- ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: No
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Unable to provide any information.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: 10 housing units (January 1999 to January 2001).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: Yes

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting trees ✓
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Village has used a building moratorium as a planning tool. As of January 2001, a moratorium was in place to halt demolition in commercial areas pending further study on altering zoning rules ✓✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No

Administration

- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Planning Commission and a Zoning Board of Appeals. Village was unable to provide information regarding whether or not the members were volunteer or paid.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 10 (January 1999 to January 2001).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 10
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 2 (January 1999 to January 2001).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: None
- ▶ Proposals denied due to negative EIS: None
- ▶ Proposals requiring amendment based on EIS: One. Village unable to provide information regard-

ing the type of environmental impacts that were identified.

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Unable to provide information regarding how much of its shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: 3 ✓

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None

NASSAU COUNTY

Water Quality	20
Land Use	14
Open Space	3
Quality of Response	6
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	46

GOOD

2000 Population: **1,334,544**
 Area (in square miles): **286.7**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):
County did not provide information.

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in county: 3 sewage treatment plants, which discharge into the Harbor Bight, are located in the county, but none of these are located in the municipalities of the Harbor Bight study area.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ County manages sewage collection system: Yes, in part. It maintains over 3,000 linear miles of pipe.
- ▶ Program to detect illegal/improper uses of the system: Yes ✓

- ▶ Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) conducted since 1989: Yes, of the entire system ✓. In 1994 an inflow and infiltration analysis of the system was performed in conjunction with a corrosion study of the collection system. The survey identified extensive corrosion of existing asbestos cement pipes with minimal inflow and infiltration. Around 10% of the piping was found to be problematic. Corrective actions were taken by the county ✓.
- ▶ Program established to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I): Yes. It consists of TV inspection of isolated problematic joints, pipe cracks, etc., and regrouting when necessary ✓.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: The Industrial Waste Control Section and Industrial Pretreatment Section are responsible for implementing and enforcing the Nassau County Sewer Use Ordinance. It has 3 full-time personnel assigned to permitting and inspection ✓. It also has 3 full-time employees for Significant Industrial User permitting, inspections, and monitoring enforcement ✓. These two sections are supported by a laboratory staff of seven ✓.
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Approximately 60 (February 1999 to February 2000), including warning notices, notices of violation, and penalties of assessments ✓.
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 2 sewer-line breaks and 164 sewer blockages (February 1999 to February 2000). Some of the overflow went directly into a stream or other body of water, and some of it went to a drainage sump pump.
- ▶ Other collection system related programs in county: County also implements: bacterial culture inoculation; dukes root treatment for root intrusion; thioguard treatment to prevent degradation from hydrogen sulfide (H₂S); inserts at manholes to prevent inflow into the system from the manhole covers; preventative maintenance consisting of routine power flushing of the lines to prevent blockages; and scheduled cleaning of lines at known problem areas in the system ✓.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of county served by OSDSs: Less than 10%

- ▶ New OSDSs still being approved on lots ¼-acre or smaller: Yes. Although this is rare and usually for commercial projects ✗.
- ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: Yes ✓.
- ▶ Number of OSDS inspections in response to complaints: 130 (December 1999 to December 2000). Complaints about septic systems are handled by the County Health Department's Community Sanitation Program.
- ▶ County has authority to approve new OSDSs: In part. The Nassau County Health Department has jurisdiction over septic system permitting of subdivisions of 5 or more units and commercial facilities which discharge more than 1,000 gallons per day. All other septic system permitting falls under the jurisdiction of Town or Village building departments.
- ▶ Applications for new OSDSs received: 20 new septic systems were approved for three new subdivisions, and 7 septic systems were approved for commercial sites (December 1999 to December 2000).
- ▶ Number of OSDS inspectors in county: The County Health Department employs 3 engineers to help with the evaluation of soil conditions, which are part of the owner's application for permission to install a septic system.
- ▶ OSDS enforcement actions taken: None (December 1999 to December 2000).

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: Yes. The Nassau County Comprehensive Water Management Plan. It was formulated in 1989, and discusses precipitation, sewage flows, streamflow, and recharge basins ✓.
- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Twice a month on county-owned roads ✓.
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Sediment traps cleaned as required based on storm events ✓.
- ▶ In-line stormwater devices installed: Yes. An in-line stormceptor device was installed, on a trial basis, to separate oil and grit ✓.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: No. This is the responsibility of the municipalities.

- ▶ County limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Near county facilities ✓
- ▶ Program to detect/correct illegal connections to the storm sewer system: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Unable to provide information (for the period February 1999 to February 2000).
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓. County requires the addition of recharge basins ✓
- ▶ Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: No. County has no enforcement powers regarding stormwater and erosion regulations.
- ▶ Other runoff or stormwater pollution programs: Yes. County uses the Soil & Water Conservation District and other nonprofit organizations as educational tools to discuss stormwater and nonpoint source pollution controls ✓

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: According to NRDC’s 2000 and 2001 reports *Testing the Waters*, Nassau County had 20 beach closures or advisories in 2000.

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ County located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the county.
- ▶ County located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the county.

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

- Outstanding:** 50+
- Good:** 35–50
- Fair:** 20–34
- Needs improvement:** 0–19

- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Unable to provide any information.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Unable to provide information (for the period February 1998 to February 2000).

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓. Protecting endangered habitat ✓. Protecting open space ✓.
- ▶ County adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes. Although local governments still retain most land use authority ✓.
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓
- ▶ County participates in watershed-based planning: Yes ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Unable to provide any information (for the period February 1998 to February 2000).

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Unable to provide any information.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: In progress ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes ✓

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): According to NYDEC, there are piping plovers nesting within the county, but the county has no programs protecting them **X**.
- ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: None
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes **✓**
- ▶ Program for habitat restoration: Yes **✓**

NEW YORK CITY

Water Quality	43
Land Use	8
Open Space	15
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	78

GOOD

2000 Population: **8,008,278**
 Area (in square miles): **303.3**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **1.32 tidal; 8.31 non-tidal**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **6,291 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)**

Water Quality

▶ New York City is unique in that it is the largest, most populous, and most densely populated municipality that we surveyed. New York City scored well because relative to many other municipalities, it provided NRDC a great deal of information, and because it has developed a number of environmental programs. Although New York City earned a high number of points, the appearance on our Dirty Dozen list of 2 of the city’s sewage treatment plants, including Jamaica Water Pollution Control Plant as the worst violator, required adjusting the water quality score to “needs improvement” and the overall score to “good.” (As with all municipalities, we did not independently

verify any of the information submitted by city officials.)

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: New York City has the most extensive wastewater treatment operation in the country, with 14 treatment plants that discharge into the Harbor Bight, and a collection system of 90 pumping stations and over 6,000 miles of sewers. In 2000, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which, among other things, operates sewage treatment plants and the regional water supply, had a staff of 5,900 and an expense budget of \$616,000,000. The capital budget in 2000 for new construction and facility upgrades was \$1,865,000,000. Plans to upgrade or retrofit plant[s] to higher level of treatment: DEP has engaged in research to enhance the quality of treated wastewater **✓**. Through bond funding of the NYC Water Finance Authority, the City has committed to a 10-year Capital Improvement Program that will address plant upgrades and plant reconstruction, costing several billion dollars. The biological nitrogen removal retrofit Capital Improvement Program alone has a commitment of \$106,000,000 **✓**. It introduced a universal metering program, converting frontage billing to metered billing for the approximately 810,000 water use customers in the five boroughs **✓**. This program is in its final stages, at a cost of \$250,000,000, and has effectively reduced consumption by 200 million gallons per day **✓**.
- ▶ Plans for responding to increases in sewage treatment capacity demand: The city plans to respond to increased sewage treatment capacity demand in the next few years by implementing water conservation programs **✓**.
- ▶ Hours per week each plant is staffed: All 14 plants are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week **✓**.
- ▶ Post-certification training program for treatment plant employees: The city encourages post-certification training for treatment plant employees. Training is offered to all levels of operators, and training may be broadly generalized or targeted to fields of specialization **✓**.

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Municipal sewage treatment plants serve industrial users: Yes
- ▶ Industrial users required to pretreat their waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ Other sewage treatment related programs: In the late 1990s, DEP instituted an Enhanced Beach Protection Program to reduce raw sewage bypasses during the summer recreation season, which consisted of a second shift of Collection Facility personnel whose duties were to constantly monitor pumping stations, regulators, and tidegates ✓. A second aspect to the program is increased preventative maintenance of critical equipment ✓. Marine survey vessels have also increased monitoring of outfalls during the duration of the program ✓. The program was designed to prevent beach closings, and preserve waterway recreation. This program reduced beach-season bypasses by 96% ✓. DEP also expanded the floatables program. It placed booms around strategic outfalls, and designed and purchased a number of floatables-capture vessels that skim most of New York's harbors and rivers ✓. DEP also has a biological nitrogen removal (BNR) pilot program, with 5 separate and distinct pilots currently underway at five of the treatment plants ✓.
- ▶ Municipality has implemented water conservation programs ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. In its entirety.
- ▶ Program to detect illegal/improper uses of the system: Yes. The Bureau of Wastewater Treatment has a drainage basin Monitoring Section which conducts dry and wet weather field surveys of outfalls and storm-

water discharges; monitors industrial wastes discharged into the collection system; investigates illegal connections in the sewer system; and takes samples of toxins and heavy metals introduced into the system by industrial companies ✓.

- ▶ Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) conducted since 1989: Yes. In 1999. Around 16% (963 miles) of the system was evaluated ✓.
- ▶ Program established to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I): Yes ✓. 50 flow monitors and 4 rain gauges have been installed at high-capacity locations to reduce extraneous flow, and to assist planning for future upgrades ✓. Through tracking of chloride concentrations, a continuous policy of tidegate reconstruction has been underway ✓.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes ✓. The Bureau of Wastewater Treatment has a staff of 72 to enforce Industrial Pretreatment Program regulations ✓.
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Numerous enforcement actions (April 1999 to April 2000). 747 Notices of Violation were issued for Industrial Pretreatment Program violations and grease code violations, 4,039 letters were sent relating to failure to connect to approved sanitary sewers. These resulted in 232 Notices of Violation ✓.
- ▶ Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) located on or near bathing beaches: Not in the vicinity of public beaches. However, there are two near small privately owned beaches: on Eastchester Bay in the Bronx and Douglaston Bay in Queens.
- ▶ Funds committed to CSO abatement: Yes. A capital improvements plan of \$1,400,000,000 is in place to study, design, and construct a variety of CSO abatement facilities ✓. However, the city has missed several CSO construction milestones that it had agreed to meet in a consent order. The consent order resulted from settlement of a lawsuit brought by environmental groups, including NRDC ✗.
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: In recent years, the city has experienced bypasses related to pumping stations, regulator problems, plant problems, and illegal connections. Several of the city's plants

experienced a number of bypasses in 1999, but the total amount did not reach 0.01% of flow.

► Other collection-system-related programs in municipality: Within the city, there are a number of privately owned sewage-treatment package plants and pumping stations.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

► Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: The city has septic systems in Staten Island, Rockaway, and parts of the Bronx, but the city was unable to provide any information regarding the percentage of the city which uses septic.

Stormwater Runoff

► Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: Yes, as is required of larger municipalities by federal law. The city maintains a permitting program for industrial users that may potentially impact stormwater ✓

► Street sweeping performed: Yes. Generally, all city streets are swept once per week ✓

► Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Absent complaints, hood and basin inspections are conducted every 2 years, and catch basins are also cleaned once every 2 to 3 years ✓

► Catch basins contain hood or other device to remove floatables or sediment: Yes. 97% of catch basins are equipped with hoods ✓

► Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. These facilities have been constructed as part of the Bluebelt program since 1998. The city is in the process of developing maintenance protocols. It is estimated that the development of the Bluebelt has resulted in savings of \$54,000,000 in deferred infrastructure construction costs. Wet detention ponds ✓ Sand filters ✓ Constructed stormwater wetlands ✓ Outlet stilling basins ✓ Streambank stabilization ✓

► Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. Although the program is handled by private carters, not the City Department of Sanitation.

► Program to detect/correct illegal connections to the storm-sewer system: Yes ✓

► Number of enforcement actions taken: Numerous enforcement actions (April 1999 to April 2000). There has been a 96% rate of correction with NYDEC discharge listings ✓

► Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes. And as of April 2000, city was in the process of field confirmation of its mapped system ✓

► Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention and sediment control required during construction ✓

► Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Post-construction runoff limited to some percentage of pre-construction runoff ✓

► Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓

► Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. Tree removal regulated ✓ Development limited in steep slope areas ✓ In Staten Island, zoning resolutions created Special Purpose Districts, restricting activities in three geographic areas: Special Hillside Preservation District (on the North Shore), Special Natural Area District (Mid Island), and Special South Richmond Development District. The varying purposes of these districts protect against hillside degradation, protect natural features, and limit topographical changes.

► Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Yes. There are 2 permanent staff, and others are used as needed to do field inspections and sampling ✓

► Number of enforcement actions taken: Over 100 enforcement actions (April 1998 to April 2000) ✓

Water Quality Impacts

► Water quality related impacts: According to NRDC's 2000 and 2001 reports *Testing the Waters*, Bronx County had 16 beach closures or advisories during 2000.

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

► Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the city.

► Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the city.

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Yes
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Unable to provide information (for the period between 1999 and 2001).

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Wetlands ✓. Open space ✓. Coastal waters ✓.
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No. Although city has extensive zoning regulations and many smaller plans.

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Unable to provide information (for the period between 1999 and 2001).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: Unable to provide information (for the period between 1999 and 2001).
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Unable to provide information.
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: Yes ✓

Open Space**Public Access**

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the city, approximately 90% of the city's shoreline is publicly accessible.
- ▶ New private waterfront development required to provide public access: Yes. Through a zoning resolution ✓.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: The city's total parklands as of July 2001 consisted of 28,358 acres. Parks recently acquired more than 2,000 acres, including the Saw Mill Creek Preserve, Teleport Magnolia Preserve, Isle of Meadows, North Brother Islands, South Brother Island, and Udalls Park Preserve ✓.
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: Yes. The Parks Department Natural Resources Group (NRG) has also used GIS to inventory land characteristics ✓.
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. A plan developed by federal, state, and city agencies along with the Harbor Estuary Program aims to protect and restore significant natural areas in the New York–New Jersey Harbor Bight ✓.
- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes ✓. Most lands are acquired through interagency land transfers, or mayoral and City Council monies for private properties ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: A natural resource inventory ✓. A wetlands inventory ✓.
- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. The city's park rangers have a piping plover protection program in the Rockaways. For 2 out of the last 3 years, the city had the highest numbers of baby plovers hatching and fledging in the state, exceeding 1.1 per pair ✓✓.
- ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: A rare plant propagation program ✓. An avian monitoring and restoration program ✓.

- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. More than 1,200 acres of forested wetlands and salt marsh have been acquired by the New York City Parks Department since 1994 ✓
- ▶ Program for habitat restoration: Yes ✓
- ▶ Other public access or open space related programs: The Parks Department recently implemented a “Forever Wild” program, designating 7,500 acres as wildlands, which included forests, grasslands, and wetlands ✓

NORTH HAVEN, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	8
Land Use	16
Open Space	7
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total RawScore	43

GOOD

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **743**
 Area (in square miles): **2.7**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **0.06 (non-tidal)**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **49 (single-family homes)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None that discharge into the Harbor Bight.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage-collection system: No

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: 100%
- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDs: No. Authority lies with the county.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Of village roads as needed ✓

- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. As needed ✓
- ▶ Catch basins contain hood or other device to remove floatables or sediment: Yes. New catch basins are equipped with hoods ✓
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. Participates in Southampton’s program ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction ✓
- ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Regulations restricting development near wetlands. Construction is prohibited within 75 feet of tidal wetlands, freshwater wetlands, marshes, ponds, creeks, or streams ✓
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. Regulations limit impervious surface coverage ✓. Regulations limit development on highly erodible soils ✓. Regulations limit development in floodplains ✓

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: No
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: No

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: 56 new housing units (February 1999 to February 2001).

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+
Good: 35–50
Fair: 20–34
Needs improvement: 0–19

► Municipality considers itself completely “built out”:
No

Planning and Management Tools

- Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓. Protecting open space ✓.
- Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Overlay zoning ✓. Cluster development ✓. Conservation easement ✓✓. A 6-month building moratorium on subdivisions ✓✓.
- Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓

Administration

- Professional planner on staff: No. Village contracts with a private planner when necessary.
- Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A volunteer Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, and a contractual planning and environmental advisor and village attorney.
- Applications for new development submitted: 182 (February 1999 to February 2001).
- Applications for new development approved: 182
- Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): None
- State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In the planning stages.

Open Space

Public Access

► Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the village, 5% of the village’s shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Around 140 ✓
- Open space inventory prepared: In progress ✓

- Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes ✓
- Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes. The Community Preservation Fund, which is collected by the Town of Southampton from the 2% land transfer tax ✓.

Habitat

- Protections for endangered/threatened species: None
- Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. But village was unable to provide information regarding how many acres have been protected ✓.
- Coastal protection programs: Yes. Village requires coastal setbacks ✓.
- Other public access or open space related programs: Village is currently preparing a long-range planning study with an emphasis on open space planning ✓.

OCEAN BEACH, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	8
Land Use	3
Open Space	0
Quality of Response	8
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	22

FAIR

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **138**. *Note on population:* This number represents the official U.S. Census count of year-round residents. However, the village is a second-home and resort community, so this number does not accurately reflect the populations who live in the village on a part-time basis. Early spring population is estimated at 500; summer season population is estimated at 3,000 residents plus a daily visitor tourist population of up to 15,000 on peak weekends; autumn population is estimated at 600.
 Area (in square miles): **0.1**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):
4 (single-family homes)

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

Water Quality**Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)**

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: Yes. The Ocean Beach Wastewater Plant (Great South Bay) is located in the village and discharges into the Harbor Bight.
- ▶ Plans for responding to increases in sewage treatment capacity demand: Yes. Village plans to implement water conservation programs or provide for the increased capacity of the plant ✓

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. Village manages all of its sewage collection system.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes. 5 staff ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: 5 (April 1999 to April 2000) ✓
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 25 sewer blockages (April 1999 to April 2000), none resulting in any significant overflow.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: Unable to provide any information.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Of all streets regularly from May to November ✓
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Annually ✓
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: No. The village initiated a program to collect household hazardous waste in 2001, but due to the poor response

of initial pilot program, the program's future is uncertain.

- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓
- Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Coastal setbacks required ✓

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. In its entirety.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: None.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Unable to provide information (for the period April 1998 to April 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely "built out": Yes

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. An ordinance prohibits future planting of bamboo, as it has proven a menace to native flora. And while no tree protection ordinance currently exists, such legislation is presently being considered by the Village Board ✓
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. A building moratorium ✓✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A volunteer Zoning Board, a volunteer Planning Board, and a volunteer Environmental Commission.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 8 (April 1998 to April 2000).

- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 8
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): None
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In development

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the village, 100% of the village’s ocean shoreline is publicly accessible, and 55% of the village’s bay shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: None

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None

OYSTER BAY, TOWN OF

Water Quality	21
Land Use	0
Open Space	0
Quality of Response	5
Return Rate	2
Total Raw Score	28

FAIR

County: **Nassau**

2000 Population: **293,925**

Area (in square miles): **104.4**

Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **0.01 (non-tidal)**

Residential building permits issued (1998-1999): **227 (both single-family homes and multifamily dwellings)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: The Oyster Bay Sewage Treatment Plant is located in the town and discharges into the Harbor Bight, but it is operated by the Oyster Bay Sewer District.

The Oyster Bay Sewer District is an independent entity, and the town has no jurisdiction over the district.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: No. Town does not own or operate any part of its sewage collection system.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDs: Less than 5%
- ▶ New OSDs still being approved on lots ¼-acre or smaller: Yes. According to the town.
- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDs: No. Authority lies with the county.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. As needed, throughout the town ✓
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. As needed ✓
- ▶ Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes ✓. Dry detention ponds ✓. Sand filters ✓. Grassed swales ✓. Constructed stormwater wetlands ✓. Bioretention ✓
- ▶ In-line stormwater devices installed: Yes. A vortex system is to be installed in one location to treat stormwater runoff that washes from the roadway to the Turtle Cove portion of Centre Island Beach causing an area of Oyster Bay harbor to be closed for shell-fishing ✓. In addition, the town recently installed a series of leaching rings to capture and treat stormwater runoff on a road end that goes directly into Oyster Bay Harbor. This is not a townwide project for storm sewers.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. The town holds “Stop Throwing Out Pollutants” programs throughout the year at various locations in the town. It is one of the largest such operations in New York State ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Around town-owned facilities ✓
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

- Outstanding:** 50+
- Good:** 35–50
- Fair:** 20–34
- Needs improvement:** 0–19

- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. Limits on impervious surface coverage for varying zoning classifications ✓. Town limits development in stormwater recharge areas ✓
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: Yes. 10 professional staff ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (December 1998 to December 2000).
- ▶ Other runoff or stormwater pollution programs: Yes. Town has implemented public education programs about stormwater ✓. The town reviews each building permit application to ensure stormwater remains and is treated on site ✓

Marinas

- ▶ Local regulations requiring marinas to have pumpout stations: Town has 3 stationary pumpout stations and 2 mobile pumpouts, and most of the private marinas also have pumpout facilities.
- ▶ Environmentally sensitive siting and/or design criteria for marinas: Yes. Oyster Bay Harbor is working on being designated a “No-Discharge Zone.” ✓

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: Yes. Shellfish-bed closures (December 1998 to December 2000), which are typically implemented by NYDEC during holiday weekends as a precaution.

Land Use

- ▶ Municipality did not complete this section of the survey.

Open Space

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: None

Habitat

- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None

PATCHOGUE, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	11
Land Use	0
Open Space	2
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	25

FAIR

County: **Suffolk**

2000 Population: **11,919**

Area (in square miles): **2.2**

Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **14 (single-family homes)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: Yes. One that discharges into the Harbor Bight.
- ▶ Any treatment plants exempt from secondary treatment for ocean discharge (301[h]): The sewage treatment plant in the village has received an exemption from secondary treatment for ocean discharge ✗.
- ▶ Post-certification training program for treatment-plant employees: Available for sewage treatment plant operators ✓. Required by the village ✓

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. In part.
- ▶ Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) conducted since 1989: Performed in 1989 ✓. Evaluation looked at

entire system ✓ 1 pipe section required rehabilitation, which was completed ✓

- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes. 1 staff member ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (August 1999 to August 2000).
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: 1 sewer-line break and 1 sewer blockage (August 1999 to August 2000), but no significant overflow.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ New OSDSs still being approved on lots ¼-acre or smaller: Yes. At an approximate rate of 2 per year X.
- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: No. Authority lies with the county and with the village's Superintendent of Public Works.
- ▶ Applications for new OSDSs received: Unable to provide information regarding the number of applications submitted or approved in the last year.
- ▶ Number of OSDS inspectors in municipality: Unable to provide information.
- ▶ OSDS enforcement actions taken: Unable to provide information (for the period August 1999 to August 2000).
- ▶ Regular OSDS inspections or pumpouts required: Yes ✓

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: Unable to provide any information.
- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. 5 days per week ✓
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Once or twice annually ✓
- ▶ Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Bioretention used ✓. It is maintained every six months ✓.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: No X
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction ✓
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: About half of its stormwater system has been mapped.

- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: None
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (August 1998 to August 2000).

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: Beach and shellfish-bed closures and advisories (August 1998 to August 2000).

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: No
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: No

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: 15 new housing units, 4 new commercial units, and 1 industrial unit (August 1998 to August 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely "built out": Yes

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A paid Planning Board and a paid Zoning Board of Appeals.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 30 (August 1998 to August 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 20, as of August 2000.
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 1 (August 1998 to August 2000)
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: No. The environmental impacts identified by the statement involved impacts to a natural waterway.

► State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: In the planning stages.

Open Space

Public Access

► Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Approximately 75% of the village’s shoreline is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

► Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Approximately 35 ✓
 ► Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: In progress

Habitat

► Protections for endangered/threatened species: None
 ► Program for habitat restoration: Yes. The Patchogue River Maritime Plan, completed in 1999 ✓

QUOGUE, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	16
Land Use	3
Open Space	10
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	41

GOOD

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **1,018**
 Area (in square miles): **4.2**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **0.04 (tidal)**
 Residential building permits issued (1998-1999): **57 (single-family homes)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

► Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: None that discharge into the Harbor Bight.

Sewage Collection Systems

► Municipality manages sewage collection system: No

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

► Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: 100%
 ► Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: Yes. No other regulatory action is taken by the village regarding septic systems ✓
 ► Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: No. Authority lies with the Suffolk County Health Department.
 ► Number of OSDS inspectors in municipality: None

Stormwater Runoff

► Nonpoint source pollution control plan or storm-water management plan: Yes. A stormwater management plan: as part of a townwide project, the village installed drainage systems to reduce runoff ✓
 ► Street sweeping performed: Yes. Weekly in the business district, and less often in residential districts ✓
 ► Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Seasonally ✓
 ► Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. Dry detention wells used during construction to keep runoff on site ✓
 ► In-line stormwater devices installed: Grassed swales, with no regular maintenance schedule ✓
 ► Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes. Participates in the Town of Southampton’s program ✓
 ► Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes ✓
 ► Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗
 ► Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention and sediment control required during construction ✓
 ► Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓
 ► Ordinance limiting post-construction runoff to some percentage of pre-construction runoff: Yes. Post-construction runoff must be the same as pre-construction runoff ✓
 ► Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓
 ► Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Amount of impervious surface coverage limited ✓
 Development limited in stormwater recharge areas ✓

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

Development limited in wetlands ✓. Drainage plans are generally required as part of new construction to prevent runoff impacts on public roads and neighboring properties.

- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Yes. 1 professional staffperson ✓.
- ▶ Other runoff or stormwater pollution programs: Village promotes public education about stormwater pollution through newsletters ✓.

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: No
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: 55 new houses and 5 light industrial buildings (December 1998 to December 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: No

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Purchase of development rights ✓✓. Scenic easements ✓.
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: No

Administration

- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Planning Board and a Zoning Board of Appeals—whose members are volunteers.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: 5 (December 1998 to December 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: 2
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 2
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: These EISs were still pending as of December 2000.

Open Space**Public Access**

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the village, around 5% of its shoreline is accessible to the public.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Around 200 acres of protected open space. This land is upland woodlands with two freshwater ponds, owned by the village. The village leases this land to NYDEC for a Wildlife Refuge used for public education purposes, including summer ecology programs for children ✓.
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. Using a 2% transfer tax as a Community Preservation Fund in partnership with the Town of Southampton ✓. 2 parcels have been acquired in a Critical Environmental Area, totaling 24 acres, and village is in contract to acquire 15 more acres ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. A wetlands inventory ✓.
- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. The Nature Conservancy monitors plovers and terns in the village. Sometimes the village closes beach access if there is nesting in the village ✓.
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. Village has protected

around 50 acres of wetlands through easement, and more than 50 acres through acquisition or gifts ✓
 ▶ Coastal protection programs: Village has a program to restore dunes ✓. Over 100 acres has been designated as a critical environmental area ✓. Village mandates fencing and beachgrass ✓. Village has adopted a Coastal Erosion Hazard Law (CEHL), which restricts building south of CEHL line, which is around 25 feet from dunes ✓.

SAG HARBOR, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	16
Land Use	11
Open Space	6
Quality of Response	9
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	45

GOOD

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **2,313**
 Area (in square miles): **1.7**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999):
25 (single-family homes)

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: Yes. The Sag Harbor Sewer Treatment Plant, which discharges into the Harbor Bight, is located in Sag Harbor.
 ▶ Post-certification training program for treatment-plant employees: Participation in a post-certification training program required for treatment plant operators ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: Yes. In part.
 ▶ Program to detect illegal/improper uses of the system: Yes. The plant operator inspects buildings and monitors the product at the plant ✓.
 ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes. 1 professional staff person ✓.

▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (January 1999 to January 2000).
 ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 1 sewer-line blockage (January 1999 to January 2000), but there was no significant overflow.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: 90%
 ▶ New OSDSs still being approved on lots ¼-acre or smaller: Yes. At a rate of about 4 per year.
 ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: Authority lies with the county.

Stormwater Runoff

▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Of the entire village. But no information was provided regarding frequency ✓.
 ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Annually ✓.
 ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: No ✗
 ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction ✓.
 ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗
 ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓
 ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓.
 ▶ Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓
 ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring of construction sites ✓.
 ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. Development must be 100 feet away ✓.
 ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. In steep slope areas ✓. In highly erodable soils ✓. Limits on amount of impervious coverage allowed ✓.
 ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: None
 ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: None (January 1998 to January 2000).
 ▶ Other runoff or stormwater pollution programs: Village is installing drainage to catch and filter road runoff ✓. Village has also improved road ends to filter the first flush of road runoff ✓.

Marinas

- ▶ Local regulations requiring marinas to have pump-out stations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmentally sensitive siting and/or design criteria for marinas: Any private citizens requesting a dock or expansion of other facilities must get approval from the Village Trustees. During the approval process design criteria that take into account the need for tidal flushing to protect wildlife are considered ✓

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Yes
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes. Including the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and the Village Waterfront Consistency Review.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Yes. 12 new housing units and 1 new commercial unit (January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: Almost

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting trees ✓

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

- Outstanding:** 50+
- Good:** 35–50
- Fair:** 20–34
- Needs improvement:** 0–19

Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting open space ✓.

- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Conservation easements ✓✓
- ▶ Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Planning Board and a Zoning Board; the members of each are volunteers.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Unable to provide information (for the period January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: Unable to provide information (for the period January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 2 (January 1998 to January 2000).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: No
- ▶ Proposals denied due to negative EIS: None
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: Yes. The original plan was approved in 1986, and a revised version was approved in 1999 ✓

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: According to the village, 50% of its shoreline is publicly accessible.
- ▶ New private waterfront development required to provide public access: Yes ✓

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: One-half acre. Village is currently negotiating for 13 more ✓
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: Yes ✓

- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes. Village has access to monies, collected by the towns of East Hampton and Southampton, which come from a 2% tax on the sale of land. ✓

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. A wetlands inventory. ✓
- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: None
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes ✓

SOUTHAMPTON, TOWN OF

Water Quality	22
Land Use	31
Open Space	14
Quality of Response Score:	10
Return Rate Score:	3
Total Raw Score	80

OUTSTANDING

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **54,712**
 Area (in square miles): **138.9**
 Wetland acres filled under federal permits (1995–1997): **5 (tidal)**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **1,155 (single-family homes)**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: No

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ The town’s sewage is treated by private on-site sanitary systems, consisting of septic tanks and leaching pools.
- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDS: Virtually 100%
- ▶ New OSDSs still being approved on lots ¼-acre or smaller: Yes. However, this approval is rare ✗.
- ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: The town may require that

systems be upgraded, even if there is no county requirement to do so.

- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: The county and the town have the authority to approve new septic systems. Construction of new septic systems requires both Suffolk County Department of Health approval and town approval, where town wetland permits or coastal erosion management permits are needed.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: Yes ✓. The town passed its own Clean Water Bond Act in 1993, providing \$2 million for road drainage improvements. These monies have been leveraged to obtain even more funding in state grants ✓.
- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Throughout the town at least once a month ✓.
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Seasonally ✓.
- ▶ Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. But there is no set maintenance schedule for any of these mechanisms. Wet detention ponds ✓. Dry detention ponds ✓. Sand filters ✓. Grassed swales ✓. Constructed stormwater wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Limited within an aquifer protection overlay district, on golf courses, and within 200 feet of wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Law requiring proper disposal of pet waste: No ✗
- ▶ Program to detect/correct illegal connections to the storm sewer system: Yes. A program to detect illegal discharges to surface waters ✓.
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓
- ▶ Erosion control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction ✓.
- ▶ Ordinance requiring permanent stormwater controls after site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Yes. Visual monitoring ✓.
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: Yes. A regulation restricts development near wetlands; it requires a 100-foot setback for land dis-

turbance, a 125-foot setback for structures, and a 150-foot setback for septic systems for new developments ✓

- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Yes. In steep slope areas ✓. In floodplain areas ✓. In stormwater recharge areas ✓.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion-control regulations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Unable to provide information within the time allotted for the period August 1998 to August 2000. However, the town has access to information regarding enforcement actions taken.

Marinas

- ▶ Local regulations requiring marinas to have pump-out stations: Yes ✓
- ▶ Boater access to pumpout stations: Yes. Town has a mobile vessel pumpout program ✓.
- ▶ Environmentally sensitive siting and/or design criteria for marinas: As part of site plan review and wetland regulations, the siting and design criteria take into account the need for adequate tidal flushing to protect wildlife ✓.

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality-related impacts: Yes. Shellfish-bed closures and/or harvest restrictions, but other areas which had been closed off were opened up (August 1998 to August 2000).

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the town.

- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the town.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: No
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: 881 new single-family dwellings and 22 commercial and industrial units (August 1998 to August 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: No

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓. Protecting rare or endangered habitat ✓. Protecting natural vegetation ✓. Protecting Coastal Erosion Hazard Areas ✓. Protecting farmland ✓. Protecting archaeological areas of interest ✓. Protecting trails ✓. Protecting pine barrens ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Overlay zoning used to protect aquifers, tidal wetlands, floodplains, beaches, and dunes ✓. Planned unit development. Cluster development ✓. Transfer of development rights to protect farmland and pine barrens ✓✓. Purchase of development rights to protect farmland ✓✓. A building moratorium to allow time to implement the Town’s Comprehensive Plan Update ✓✓. Conservation easements to protect natural areas in subdivisions ✓✓.
- ▶ Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes. It has a conservation focus ✓.
- ▶ Municipality participates in watershed-based planning: Yes. The town is working closely with the Suffolk County Water Authority, the Town of East

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

Hampton, the USGS, and the Suffolk County Department of Health Services to develop a watershed protection plan ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. An Environmental Division, a Planning Division, and a Community Preservation Office, all of which have paid staff. The town also has a Conservation Board, a Zoning Board, and a Planning Board, the members of which receive stipends.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: The town has access to information regarding the number of applications for new development submitted to the town between August 1998 and August 2000, but in the time allotted by NRDC, the town was unable to provide this information.
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 5 (August 1998 to August 2000).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: All of these were still under review as of August 2000. The environmental impacts identified include natural resources, traffic, and community character.
- ▶ State-approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan: The town is currently drafting a Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan.
- ▶ Other land use programs in municipality: The town adopted a harbor management program to address commercial and recreational water-based needs and a marine resource protection and management plan ✓. The town has prepared its Community Preservation Project Plan ✓.

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the town, virtually the entire shoreline is accessible through road endings, parks, and public beaches.
- ▶ New private waterfront development required to provide public access: Yes. New private waterfront subdivisions must provide public access to the waterfront ✓.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Around 3,600 acres, in the form of agricultural lands ✓.
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: Yes ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. The Community Preservation Project Plan. The program is funded by a land transfer tax program, which will be in effect until the end of 2008 ✓.
- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes. A \$5 million open space bond act was passed by the town in 1996. Community Preservation Fund monies are leveraged to obtain additional county funding ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. A natural resource inventory ✓. A wetlands inventory ✓.
- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. Programs to manage and protect piping plovers and least terns have been in place for 13 years ✓✓. Off-road vehicles are allowed on beaches, although they are subject to seasonal closures to protect endangered species.
- ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: Yes. The town performs periodic field surveys in coordination with a New York Natural Heritage Program to assess species protection needs ✓.
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. The town has access to information regarding how many acres of wetlands have been protected through these programs, but in the time period NRDC allowed for responses the town was unable to provide this information ✓.

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

- Outstanding:** 50+
- Good:** 35–50
- Fair:** 20–34
- Needs improvement:** 0–19

- ▶ Program for habitat restoration: Yes. For wetland areas ✓
- ▶ Coastal protection programs: Yes. It consists of protective overlay districts and holds volunteer-oriented restoration events ✓. The town also requires coastal setbacks ✓.

SOUTHAMPTON, VILLAGE OF

Water Quality	18
Land Use	15
Open Space	9
Quality of Response	8
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	53

OUTSTANDING

County: **Suffolk**
 2000 Population: **3,965**
 Area (in square miles): **6.3**
 Residential building permits issued (1998-1999):
65 (single-family homes)

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in municipality: No
- ▶ Municipality has implemented water conservation programs: Yes. Landscape irrigation is prohibited in barrier beach areas ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ Municipality manages sewage collection system: No

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of municipality served by OSDSs: The entire village is served by septic systems, except for the Southampton Hospital and the Coopers Farm Condo development, where private sewage collection systems are used and serve only those facilities.
- ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: Yes, if the facility is within 200 feet of tidal or freshwater wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Municipality has authority to approve new OSDSs: No. The authority to approve new septic systems lies

with the Suffolk County Department of Health Services.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Street sweeping performed: Yes. Downtown streets daily, and of all streets seasonally ✓.
- ▶ Catch basins routinely inspected and/or cleaned: Yes. Annually ✓.
- ▶ Best management practices (BMPs) used/required: Yes. Wet detention ponds ✓. Recharge basins ✓. Leaching pools ✓. There is no maintenance schedule for any of these.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction ✓.
- ▶ Stormwater system mapped/inventoried: Yes ✓
- ▶ Erosion-control ordinances or regulations: Yes. Erosion prevention required during construction near wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Ordinance requiring monitoring of construction sites: Monitoring of construction sites near wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Restrictions on development near streams, wetlands, or coastal waters: The village regulates setbacks near wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Limits on development because of runoff concerns: Limits on the amount of impervious surface coverage allowed ✓. Development regulated in floodplains ✓. Development regulated in wetlands ✓.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce stormwater and erosion control regulations: Yes. 2 professional staff ✓.
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Unable to provide information (for the period August 1998 to August 2000).

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: Fish kills in 1999 and 2000, because of low oxygen levels in Lake Agawan.

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ Municipality located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the village.

- ▶ Municipality located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the village.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Yes

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Unable to provide information (for the period July 1998 to July 2000).
- ▶ Municipality considers itself completely “built out”: Unable to provide any information.

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting streams ✓. Protecting coastal waters ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting beaches ✓. Protecting dunes ✓. Protecting beachgrass ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Overlay zoning ✓. Cluster development ✓. Purchase of development rights ✓✓. Conservation easement ✓✓.
- ▶ Flexible zoning codes allowed for alternative site development: Yes ✓
- ▶ Municipality adopted a master/comprehensive plan: Yes ✓
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: No. But village has a planning consultant on retainer.
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: Yes. A Planning Board, a Zoning Board, and an Architectural/Historical Board, all of which are staffed by volunteers.
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: Unable to provide information (for the period July 1998 to July 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development approved: Unable to provide information (for the period July 1998 to July 2000).
- ▶ Applications for new development required to submit Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): 2 (July 1998 to July 2000).
- ▶ EISs found significant risk of negative environmental impact: 1 of these resulted in a finding of significant

- negative impact and required amendment, the other was withdrawn. Environmental impacts identified involved wetlands, wildlife, groundwater, and traffic.
- ▶ Proposals requiring amendment based on EIS: 1

Open Space

Public Access

- ▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Yes. According to the village, its entire shoreline is accessible to the public.
- ▶ New private waterfront development required to provide public access: Yes ✓

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Around 100 ✓
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: Yes ✓
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes ✓
- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Village plans to use the 2% land transfer tax ✓

Habitat

- ▶ Municipality has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. A wetlands inventory ✓.
- ▶ Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. Fences and signs are placed to help protect piping plovers and least terns ✓. Off-road vehicles allowed on beaches X.
- ▶ Protections for other endangered/threatened species: None
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Around 50 acres of wetlands have been protected through acquisition or easement ✓

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point X for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+
Good: 35–50
Fair: 20–34
Needs improvement: 0–19

- ▶ Coastal-protection programs: Coastal setbacks required ✓. New bulkheads prohibited on barrier beach ✓.

SUFFOLK COUNTY

Water Quality	12
Land Use	5
Open Space	17
Quality of Response	7
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	44

GOOD

2000 Population: **1,419,369**
 Area (in square miles): **912.2**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **No information provided.**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage-treatment plants located in county: The Suffolk County Sewer District 3’s facility is located in Suffolk County and discharges into the Harbor Bight. There are 3 other STP facilities outside of their jurisdiction that are in Suffolk County that discharge to the south shore of Long Island: Watergate Apartments, the Village of Patchogue, and Ocean Beach. The design capacity of Suffolk County Sewer District 3’s facility is 30.5 MGD.
- ▶ Plans to upgrade or retrofit plant[s] to higher level of treatment: Yes. Plans to increase reliability and safety, and to ensure that effluent limitations continue to be met ✓.
- ▶ County has implemented water conservation programs: Yes. Plant effluent is recycled for cooling water and tank washdown purposes ✓.
- ▶ Plans for responding to increases in sewage-treatment capacity demand: Yes. Over the next five years, county plans to increase plant capacity and implement water conservation programs ✓.
- ▶ Hours per week each plant is staffed: Staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week ✓.
- ▶ Post-certification training program for treatment-plant employees: Yes ✓. Safety courses are required ✓. Technical courses are encouraged.

- ▶ Municipal sewage-treatment plants serve industrial users: Yes. County serves significant industrial users.
- ▶ Industrial users required to pretreat their waste: Yes ✓.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ County manages sewage-collection system: Yes. County operates and maintains the main line sewers within the sewer district boundaries and portions contractee connections to the sewer districts. Contractees are developments that are out of the district boundaries but have entered into agreements with the county for dedication of their facilities and treatment of their sewage.
- ▶ Program to detect illegal/improper uses of the system: Yes ✓.
- ▶ Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) conducted since 1989: Yes, in 1990, of less than 10% of the system. The survey found that extraneous flows were present ✓.
- ▶ Program established to reduce inflow and infiltration (I/I): Funds are allocated to a trial program to reduce inflow and infiltration ✓.
- ▶ Plans for increasing sewer lines to accommodate new development: Yes. County expects new sewer lines will be added to the sewer system in the next five years.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Suffolk County Department of Public Works Division of Sanitation Wastewater Pretreatment Section manages this program and has 12 staff available for enforcement ✓.
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: Typically around 100 enforcement actions per year ✓.
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 1 pump-station failure, 5 sewer-line breaks, and 250 sewer blockages (January 1999 to January 2000). Only a small percentage of these resulted in overflows. When there was overflow, it went into houses or was discharged into the street, but response times were quick and so damage was minimal.
- ▶ Other collection-system-related programs in county: Yes. County has initiated a long range plan to provide a transition from corrective to preventative main-

GRADING KEY**TOTAL RAW SCORE**

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

Outstanding: 50+

Good: 35–50

Fair: 20–34

Needs improvement: 0–19

tenance. A computerized system is to be used for work orders for a cleaning/maintenance schedule on the sewer collection “hot spots.” ✓ A root control annual contract is being prepared to minimize blockages within the system.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of county served by OSDSs: Approximately 70%
- ▶ Regular OSDS inspections or pumpouts required: No. County performed fewer than 5 inspections of failed septic systems between November 1999 and November 2000, and 10,509 site inspections during 2000.
- ▶ Upgrade of OSDS required when the house/facility is enlarged or altered: County reviews existing septic systems when facilities are proposed to be enlarged and may require upgrading.
- ▶ County has authority to approve new OSDSs: Yes. Authority to approve and to inspect construction of all new septic systems.
- ▶ Applications for new OSDSs received: 5,251 (November 1999 to November 2000). 4,633 of these were approved, although not all were approved on initial application.
- ▶ OSDS enforcement actions taken: Unable to provide information (for the period November 1999 to November 2000).
- ▶ Other OSDS-related programs in county: New septic systems are restricted in sensitive groundwater management areas to 40,000 square foot lots. In other areas septic systems are allowed on 20,000 square foot lots ✗. Some lots ¼ acre or smaller are exempt from the minimum density requirements

of the code. The county has guidelines, but not requirements, for facilities to upgrade their septic systems if the septic systems fail.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ The county was unable to provide information regarding stormwater management.

Land Use**Floodplains and Flood Management**

- ▶ County located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the county.
- ▶ County located in Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes. Parts of the county.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: Yes
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: Yes
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: Towns and villages control the regulation of the development and redevelopment in these areas, although the Suffolk County Planning Commission reviews certain zoning and subdivision actions.

Growth and Development

- ▶ New development: Yes. 4,800 new residential units in 1998 and 5,500 new residential units in 1999.
- ▶ County considers itself completely “built out”: No

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting groundwater ✓. Protecting open space ✓.
- ▶ Planning and management tools utilized: Yes. Purchase of development rights ✓.
- ▶ County participates in watershed-based planning: Yes ✓

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Applications for new development submitted: County receives around 120 zoning and subdivision actions for review each month.

► Applications for new development approved: Usually around 95% of these are approved or considered a matter for local determination.

Open Space

Public Access

► Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: County has 990 miles of shoreline, but was unable to provide information regarding how much of this is publicly accessible.

Protected Open Space

► Acres of protected open space other than beaches: More than 128,000 acres, as of 1999. Including 25,000 acres of county parks and preserves ✓. Including 42,000 acres of state and federal parks and preserves.

Including 12,000 acres in the Pine Barrens. Including 20,000 acres of city, town, and village preserves and parks. Including 9,000 acres of private preserves and parks. Including 4,000 acres held by the Nature Conservancy.

► Open space inventory prepared: Yes ✓

► Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. Through various programs, including the Farmland Preservation program, the Open Space program, the Drinking Water Protection program, the Community Greenways program, the Land Preservation Partnership, and various forms of tax relief ✓. The Farmland Preservation program was created in 1977 and was the first of its kind in the U.S. The county purchases development rights other than those necessary for agricultural production. Approximately \$40 million has been spent by the county to preserve 7,000 acres of farmland ✓. The Open Space program was created in 1986 to acquire lands under development pressure. \$84 million has been spent to purchase 5,000 acres, which are generally managed as passive open space ✓. The Drinking Water Protection program was created in 1987 to acquire land related to drinking water supply, usually in one of the seven Special Groundwater Protection Areas. The program expired in 2001, but spent approximately \$220 million to acquire 12,000 acres, mostly in the Pine Barrens ✓. The Community Greenways program was created by

referendum in 1998 to protect drinking water protection parcels, stream tributaries, greenbelt areas, habitat enhancement areas, active recreation areas, and farmland. It is funded at \$62 million, and has so far acquired approximately 1,000 acres ✓. The Land Preservation Partnership partners with towns and villages to purchase land. So far it is funded at \$9 million ✓. Since the 1980s, the Suffolk County Planning Department has reviewed all tax lien parcels for environmental evaluation to determine if the county should retain them for open space use or sell them at auction. Over 15 years, it has transferred more than 350 acres to its Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation ✓.

► Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes. The county has several dedicated funds for open space acquisition. The Farmland Preservation program is funded by general obligation bonds; the Open Space program is funded mainly by general obligation bonds; the Drinking Water Protection program is funded by $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent from the sales tax; and the Land Preservation Partnership is funded by a 50/50 split between county general obligation bonds and the towns or villages ✓.

Habitat

► County has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: Yes. A natural resource inventory ✓. A wetlands inventory ✓.

► Protections for endangered piping plovers or least terns during breeding season (April–August): Yes. The program to protect shorebirds, including piping plovers and least terns, was developed in concert with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and NYDEC ✓✓.

► Protections for other endangered/threatened species: Yes. Protecting species in its parkland ✓.

► Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: Yes. Through acquisition ✓.

► Coastal protection programs: Yes. County participates in the Peconic Estuary Program and the South Shore Estuary Reserve. These programs have developed, or are in the process of developing, habitat restoration priorities ✓.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Water Quality	15
Land Use	12
Open Space	10
Quality of Response	3
Return Rate	3
Total Raw Score	43

GOOD

2000 Population: **923,459**
 Area (in square miles): **432.8**
 Residential building permits issued (1998–1999): **No information provided.**

Water Quality

Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs)

- ▶ Sewage treatment plants located in county: The Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant, the Ossining Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Peekskill Wastewater Treatment Plant are all located in the county and discharge into the Harbor Bight. The county owns and operates the Yonkers Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant, which serves the following seven county sanitary sewer districts: Bronx Valley, Central Yonkers, Hutchinson Valley, North Yonkers, Saw Mill Valley, South Yonkers, and Upper Bronx Valley.
- ▶ Plans for responding to increases in sewage treatment capacity demand: The Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant plans to use its remaining reserve capacity to respond to increases in sewage treatment capacity demand.
- ▶ Hours per week each plant is staffed: The Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant is staffed 24 hours a week, 7 days a week ✓
- ▶ Post-certification training program for treatment-plant employees: Yes. County participates in a post-certification training program for treatment plant operators through the New York Water Environment Association ✓
- ▶ Municipal sewage treatment plants serve industrial users: The Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant serves some industrial users.
- ▶ Industrial users required to pretreat their waste: Yes ✓

▶ Recent emergency situations-malfunctions, bypasses, or chemical accidents: The plant experienced an emergency high flow effect of Tropical Storm Floyd in October 1999. On several occasions in the last 5 years, the county’s plants have suffered damages, releasing partially treated sewage to the Hudson.

Sewage Collection Systems

- ▶ County manages sewage-collection system: Yes. In part.
- ▶ Program to detect illegal/improper uses of the system: Yes. Outside contractors perform routine inspection of the county’s trunk sewer ✓
- ▶ Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) conducted since 1989: NYDEC in 1992 required the county and its municipalities to fix their sewers, based on sewer system evaluation studies done in Westchester County sewer districts in the 1980s and 1990s. But by January 1998 only the work on the county sewers had been completed, and almost all of the municipalities had not done the required repairs to the sewers they owned, but instead requested that the county fix the municipal sewers in order to realize tax-dollar savings through economies of scale. In January 1998 the county began working with EPA, NYDEC, and the 30 involved municipalities to resolve the issue ✓ A serious spill into the Hudson from the Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant in July 1998 increased the urgency to implement a solution. By August 1998, the county had negotiated a consent order which does the required work at a savings about \$5 million. The \$40 million sewer rehabilitation program is now being implemented by the county. Contractors are now at work relining about 75 miles of sewers and repairing 2,500 manholes, and eliminating inflow and infiltration.
- ▶ Professional staff to enforce sewage regulations: Yes. Within the Department of Environmental Facilities, Wastewater Division ✓
- ▶ Number of enforcement actions taken: 30 (in 1998), and consent orders were executed for each of these in 1998 and 1999 ✓
- ▶ Funds committed to CSO abatement: Yes ✓
- ▶ Recent malfunctions in the system: Yes. 1 pump-station failure and 1 sewer-line break (December 2000)

to December 2001). The overflow went directly into the Harbor Bight and other bodies of water.

Septic Systems (Onsite Sewage Disposal Systems-OSDS)

- ▶ Percentage of county served by OSDSs: Parts of the county (exact percentage not specified).
- ▶ County has authority to approve new OSDSs: Yes. But the information provided by the county was unclear about what acreage or setback minimums are required in order to qualify for approval.
- ▶ Other OSDS-related programs in county: The Westchester County Health Department is implementing a program of licensing providers of septic systems, effective April 1, 2002. Individuals who provide these services must now be licensed by the County Health Department. The county’s septic management program includes an educational component and the creation of a Septic System Informational Database that will house information regarding septic system location, size, site characteristics, maintenance and inspection information.

Stormwater Runoff

- ▶ Nonpoint source pollution control plan or stormwater management plan: County is considering developing stormwater management programs for parts of the county.
- ▶ Program to collect household hazardous waste: Yes ✓
- ▶ County limits its own use of fertilizers or pesticides: Yes. Throughout its jurisdiction; it adopted a phaseout law that is now in effect ✓.
- ▶ Other runoff or stormwater pollution programs: County recently formed a Water Quality Council to work on sewer issues, pesticide reduction, and the reduction of household hazardous wastes. This council

will provide a forum for sharing technical information among county departments and other agencies ✓. County began a “Streamwalk” program, which teaches volunteers to monitor local waterways ✓. Westchester has a relatively new educational campaign to encourage people to “Keep Westchester Water H₂O,” and a new website, www.westchestergov.com/waterquality, which features a variety of measures people can take to protect water quality, including septic tank safety, pesticide-free gardening, and a special section geared to children ✓. The New York Power Authority built a fuel-cell power plant at the Westchester County Wastewater Treatment Plant which has earned environmental awards, since it is the first commercial fuel cell to use anaerobic digester gas (ADG), a by-product of wastewater treatment, to produce electricity. Up to 40,000 pounds of emissions would otherwise be released into the environment each year from the increased use of power plants to meet the wastewater treatment plant’s electricity needs and the burning-off of the ADG ✓.

Marinas

- ▶ Local regulations requiring marinas to have pump-out stations: Westchester County placed a “Pumpout Boat” in service for public use on the Hudson in 2000 ✓.

Water Quality Impacts

- ▶ Water quality related impacts: According to NRDC’s 2000 and 2001 report, *Testing the Waters*, Westchester County had 22 beach closures or advisories during 1999 and 105 closures or advisories in 2000, but none of these were in the Harbor Bight study area.

Land Use

Floodplains and Flood Management

- ▶ County located in FEMA floodplain area: Yes. Parts of the county.
- ▶ Development sited within FEMA or Coastal Zone Hazard Area: There is no county-owned development in these areas.
- ▶ Development planned for these zones: There are no county plans for development in these areas.
- ▶ Regulations regarding development or redevelopment in these zones: No

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

- Outstanding:** 50+
- Good:** 35–50
- Fair:** 20–34
- Needs improvement:** 0–19

Planning and Management Tools

- ▶ Ordinances protecting natural resources/habitats: Yes. Protecting trees ✓. Protecting wetlands ✓. Protecting open space ✓. Protecting steep slopes ✓. Ensuring erosion and sediment control ✓. Stormwater management ✓.
- ▶ County adopted a master/comprehensive plan: The county adopted “Patterns for Westchester, the Land and the People” as its long-range land use policy and planning document in 1996 ✓.
- ▶ Master plan includes conservation element: Yes ✓
- ▶ County participates in watershed-based planning: Yes. Intermunicipal watershed planning is being conducted in the Croton Reservoir watersheds ✓. The county is also participating in studies done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Bronx River and Saw Mill River ✓.

Administration

- ▶ Professional planner on staff: Yes ✓
- ▶ Environmental departments or commissions: The Westchester County Planning Department staff provides technical and administrative support to the Westchester County Planning Board, the Soil and Water Conservation District Board, the Environmental Management Council, and the Committee on Non-point Source Pollution ✓.

Open Space

Public Access

▶ Ocean and bay shoreline easily accessible to public: Access to much of the river in the Harbor Bight study area is actively discouraged by Metro-North Railroad staff. In partnership with the City of Yonkers and Scenic Hudson, the county has recently acquired the former Habirshaw Club property in Yonkers for the purpose of housing the Bezczak Environmental Center ✓. The county is also undertaking a tidal wetland restoration project at this site to restore approximately 100 feet of shoreline. A park, approximately 2 acres with 250 feet of shorefront, will be opened at that location sometime in 2002 ✓. The county encourages the provision of public access to the waterfront through its involvement with Historic Rivertowns of Westchester and the Hudson River Greenway ✓. The county also has a new initiative to create a Hudson River Walk along the entire Hudson

River shoreline in Westchester County. The County Planning Department prepared the Hudson River Access study, which assessed 13 locations in Westchester County for potential improved public access ✓.

Protected Open Space

- ▶ Acres of protected open space other than beaches: Approximately 16,000 acres of parkland ✓.
- ▶ Open space inventory prepared: Yes. The county maintains a map of Major Open Spaces and encourages the preparation of local open space inventories through the Environmental Management Council ✓.
- ▶ Plans to expand amount of preserved open space: Yes. The county continuously works with municipalities, private landowners, land trusts, and other agencies to preserve important open space in the county ✓.
- ▶ Funds dedicated for open space acquisition: Yes. The county’s 5-year capital program includes \$5 million per year for their purpose ✓.

Habitat

- ▶ County has natural resource and/or wetland inventory: No. But the county maintains and makes available to the public resource maps including the National Wetlands Inventory, NYDEC maps, and locally designated wetlands.
- ▶ Protections for endangered/threatened species: The county has approved an Endangered Species Act, and it has encouraged each municipality to do the same ✓.
- ▶ Protections for tidal or non-tidal wetlands through acquisition or easement: In order to help protect wetlands, the county is in the process of establishing biodiversity reserves at several county parks, including the entire Ward Pound Ridge Reservation ✓.

GRADING KEY

TOTAL RAW SCORE

NRDC awarded a point ✓ for an answer we judged as having a positive environmental impact; we subtracted a point ✗ for an answer we judged would have a negative environmental impact.

QUALITATIVE GRADE

- Outstanding:** 50+
- Good:** 35–50
- Fair:** 20–34
- Needs improvement:** 0–19