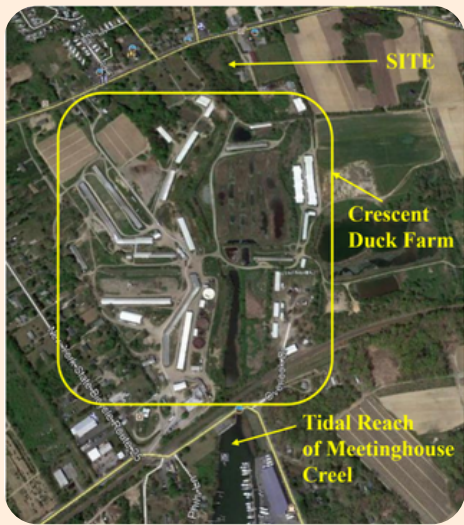




THE PECONIC ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

MEETINGHOUSE CREEK WETLAND AND HABITAT RESTORATION

CCMP ACTIONS

Action 21: Expand non-point source subwatershed management plans to all pathogen- impaired waterbodies and continue to use existing plans

STATUS

As of May 2026, construction is underway!

- Signage has been established.
- Ground has been broken for hydrologic design.
- Marsh vegetation to begin being planted in Fall of 2026.

PARTNERS

- Town of Riverhead
- New York State Department of Transportation
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- US Environmental Protection Agency



BACKGROUND

The 2.61 acre Town of Riverhead property is bordered by the Aquebogue Cemetery to the west and private property to the east and south, including the Crescent Duck Farm downstream of the site. One of many small tributaries that drain the North Fork of Long Island to the Peconic Estuary, the area has been settled and farmed since the 1600s, resulting in a heavily modified landscape and drainage patterns. The topography north of the project site is gently undulating with local depressions that appear to collect and infiltrate stormwater runoff but has no discernable surface water drainage channels. Stormwater inlets along Church Lane and Main Road collect runoff that then discharges into the Project Site. Meetinghouse Creek forms part of the "Meetinghouse and Terry's Creeks and Tributaries" segment of the Peconic Estuary. The waterbody segment was listed as impaired for dissolved oxygen, nutrients, and pathogens on NYSDEC's list of Impaired Waterbodies.

GOALS AND METHODS

Improve water quality in the Meetinghouse Creek watershed through the storage and treatment of stormwater runoff.

- Increase the ecological quality of existing freshwater wetland habitat
- Improve plant and wildlife diversity at the site.
- Invasive species control, specifically the infestation of the invasive Phragmites
- Stormwater management
- Sediment Management
 - Sediment testing detected a number of contaminants that exceed state thresholds for the protection of ecological resources.
 - Excavated material will therefore be removed off-site and disposed of at a licensed facility
 - Wetland soil will be replaced with clean material to support native plant growth.

THE HYDROLOGIC DESIGN

The hydrologic design for stormwater treatment consists of sizing and the following elements:

- A deepwater forebay for pretreatment, retention, and ease of maintenance
- Low- and high-marsh areas for water quality treatment
- A micropool for retention, water quality treatment, and ease of maintenance
- Permanent erosion and sediment control accommodations to provide protection to interior and exterior components during the 2-year event
- An outlet structure to control normal pool elevation, drawdown of the Water Quality Volume, safe discharge during the 10-year event, and safe discharge during the 100-year event.