

**FRIENDS OF
THE
LONG POND
GREENBELT**

PO Box 1130
Bridgehampton,
New York 11932
greenbeltnews@aol.com
longpondgreenbelt.org

Officers

Dai Dayton, President
631-745-0689
Sandra Ferguson, V.P.
631-537-3752
Jean Mc Dermott,
Secretary/Treasurer

Directors

David Cummings
Sharone Einhorn
Jess Powers
Doreen Johnston
Meghan Moore
Peter Wilson
Jody Winer

Honorary Directors

Jim Ash
Barbara Bornstein
Jackson Dodds
Diane Lewis

Established in 1997, FLP
is a 501c3 not-for-profit
organization dedicated
to the preservation,
stewardship, and public
appreciation of the Long
Pond Greenbelt in the
Town of Southampton,
on the East End of Long
Island, New York.

Federal EIN number:
11-3527432

NYS Charities Bureau
registration number:
40-16-86

Supervisor Maria Moore
Councilman Michael Iasilli
Councilwoman Cyndi McNamara
Councilman William Pell
Councilman Rick Martel
Southampton Town Hall
116 Hampton Road
Southampton, NY 11968

March 24, 2025

Dear Supervisor Moore and Town Board Members,

As a follow up to our letter of September 24, 2024, we would like to again urge the town to protect town-owned Poxabogue Field, the 8.3-acre field (SCTM 0908-001-03-1,2,3 &4) located between Sagg Road and Poxbogue Pond.



Poxbogue Field provides many important ecological services. It serves as

- a wildlife sanctuary and if farmed, as projected, would be fenced and plowed, obliterating the wildlife that has come to live there.
- a natural buffer protecting Poxabogue Pond, its wetlands, and our aquifer
- an important ecosystem for ground-nesting birds, like the American woodcock pictured here (photographed in the field last month by Jane Gill) salamanders and turtles, grasshoppers and beetles, butterflies and moths.
- a shelter for foxes, rabbits, deer, field mice, racoons, chipmunks and more.
- an open, natural field vista.

Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt believes the highest and best use in preserving the health and vitality of the Greenbelt's coastal plain pond ecosystem and to protect this grassland habitat would be for the property to remain a natural open space. We ask that the field's designated status be changed from agriculture to open space/greenbelt preservation.

Sincerely,

Dai Dayton

Sandra Ferguson

cc: CPF Director Jacquie Fenlon



SOUTH FORK NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

377 Bridgehampton Sag Harbor Turnpike
PO Box 455 • Bridgehampton • New York 11932

631-537-9735 • fax: 631-537-9621
www.sofo.org • info@sofo.org

March 27, 2025

Supervisor Maria Moore
Councilman Michael Iasilli
Councilman Rick Martel
Councilwoman Cyndi McNamara
Councilman William Pell

Southampton Town Hall
116 Hampton Road
Southampton, NY 11968

Dear Supervisor Moore and Southampton Town Board Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff at the South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO), we urge that the town-owned 8.3-acre property (SCTM 09087-001-03-1,2,3 & 4), located between Sagg Road and Poxabogue Pond, stay as a grassland habitat.

The grassland habitat is one of the rarest habitats, both on Long Island and in the entire continental United States. This rare habitat is home to many native grassland species such as eastern bluebirds, field sparrows, savannah sparrows, eastern meadowlarks, American woodcocks, tree swallows, red-tailed hawks, eastern screech owls, great horned owls, American kestrels, purple martins, painted turtles, eastern box turtles, snapping turtles, and NYS endangered eastern tiger salamanders, as well as many pollinators including butterflies, moths, beetles, and grasshoppers. It is also home to red foxes, white-tailed deer, raccoons, chipmunks, moles, voles, field mice, and many, many more species. The plants and grasses in this field are vital in sustaining the natural biodiversity of this ecosystem and are extremely sensitive to any human intervention. The decline of many of these grassland species is due to the disappearance of their habitat. Please consider keeping this property the habitat that it is and maintaining its important ecological services.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and I will make myself available if you have any interest in meeting me on the site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Frank Quevedo'.

Frank Quevedo
Executive Director, South Fork Natural History Museum

Turtle Rescue

OF THE HAMPTONS, INC.



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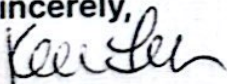
My Dear Board members; 3/24/25

I am hoping you will understand the environmental impact of what natural open space near watering holes, do for our native wildlife. I can only speak professionally as a NYS licensed expert for our state protected "species of special concern", Eastern Box and the "endangered" Eastern Mud and "threatened" Eastern Spotted that call this Poxabogue meadow and Poxabogue Pond home. You may ask why our native Turtles important~

- ~ they are a keystone species which means if they are removed from the environment the balance will collapse
- ~ they introduce calcium into our depleted soil, with their buried egg shells and their own shells after death.
- ~ They eat ticks and other nuisance insects.
- ~ they are an indicator species meaning they gauge the health of our ecosystem by their population.
- ~ they are part of nature's clean up crew, cleaning the bottom of water bodies of decaying matter and carrion.

The turtles that live in the pond use the meadow for a nesting site. All aquatic species nest on dry land. Only 1 in 1,000 hatchlings make it to adulthood. So you see how important it is to keep natural open spaces.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter .

Sincerely,


Karen Testa

Executive Director/President

NYS DEC WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR #176

NYS DEC LICENSE TO POSSESS #548

2023 Women of Distinction

2022 Hometown Hero

Turtle Rescue of the Hamptons, Inc.

[631-779-3737](tel:631-779-3737)

[516-729-7894](tel:516-729-7894) cell

"The LOVE for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man." – Charles Darwin

111 Manor Lane, P.O. Box 5, Jamesport, New York 11947 • www.turtlerescueofthehamptons.org • 631.779.3737

March 30, 2025

Dear Supervisor Moore and Town Board Members,

The Young Environmentalists Society (YES!) at the *South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO)* is a group dedicated to engaging youth in environmental advocacy, conservation, and education. Together, our members and their families explore local environmental issues, participate in hands-on projects, and collaborate with the community to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship.

It has come to our attention that **Poxabogue Field**, an 8.3-acre space located between Sagg Road and Poxabogue Pond, is being considered for farming instead of being preserved as open space. Such a change would eliminate important habitat for many species, including the American woodcock - a species that YES! members will be observing this weekend at nearby Poxabogue County Park. Last year on our Spring walk in the county park, we watched a bald eagle exploring the pond. These habitats are home to so many species such as foxes, deer, butterflies, beetles, salamanders, turtles and much more.

As stewards of the future, it is our responsibility to ensure that future generations inherit a natural world capable of sustaining life. My Young Environmentalists are deeply concerned about issues such as this. With the continued development of the East End, these critical habitats for native species are becoming increasingly rare. Our community is closely connected to its surrounding waters and ecosystems, and the loss of these habitats would significantly impact our local biodiversity.

We strongly urge the Town Board to designate Poxabogue Field's status as open space, protecting it for future generations and preserving its value as a natural habitat.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mare Dianora

Director of *The Young Environmentalists Society (YES!)*

South Fork Natural History Museum

377 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike

Bridgehampton, NY 11932

YES! Members -

Finny Dianora-Brondal

Ollie Dianora-Brondal

Emma Dietler

Sam Rafferty

Adrie Quinn

Saoirse Quinn

Yamini Oza

Eliza Mayer

Maddie Mayer

Parents -

Claes Brondal

Donna Symer

Dermot Quinn

Margarette Doyle

Sara Dietler

Sarah Cohen

Melissa Mayer

Ken Mayer