

# Mill Pond Restoration



## Restoration Highpoints



Pond floor is regraded, dredged, and cleaned.



Heavy equipment reshapes the pond's perimeter.



Extensive reconstruction of the pond wall



A newly installed filtration system prevents sedimentation.

The Town of North Hempstead's extensive twelve year restoration of Mill Pond Park was funded by federal, state and local grants. The original park, built in 1795 by closing the Bay's inlet, has suffered from water quality degradation and structural erosion. This multi-million dollar project entails the dredging of over 10,000 cubic yards of sediment, extensively reshaping the pond floor, and rebuilding its surrounding wall. Future sedimentation will be prevented and waterflow improved between the tidal Mill Pond and Manhasset Bay with the installation of filtration devices.

During restoration, the Town landscaped the pond perimeter, added an attractive brick pathway and new benches. Utilizing native plants known for shoreline adaptability, the wetland was revegetated to stabilize the bank, filter stormwater runoff, cleanse pond water, and discourage Canada geese. Geese dislike feeding near tall grasses where predators might lurk. Geese create a myriad of issues near ponds: their feces contain bacteria and nitrogen which affects water quality and damages shorelines. Geese also eat aquatic vegetation which filter and cleanse pond waters.

The work of the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee would not be possible without cooperation and assistance from the NYS Dept. of State, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, the Long Island Sound Study, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and NY Sea Grant.

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