

**PROJECT APPLICANT:** Southampton Town Trustees

**PROJECT TITLE:** Mill Pond Aquatic Habitat Restoration

**PROJECT TYPE:** Aquatic habitat restoration

**SCALE:** Neighborhood/Watershed

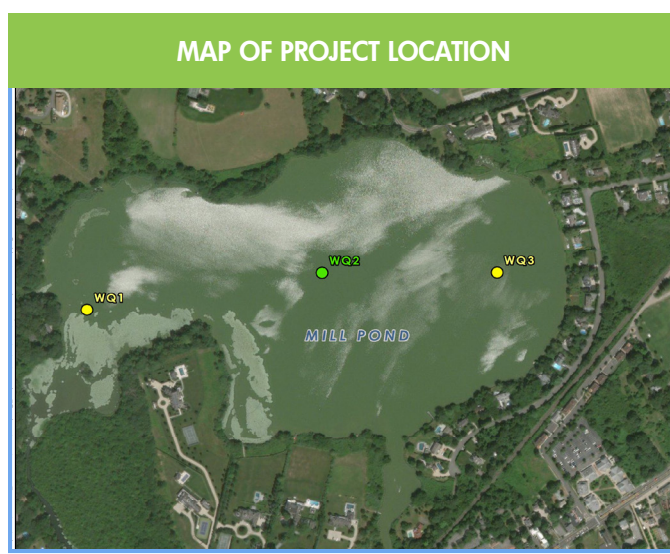
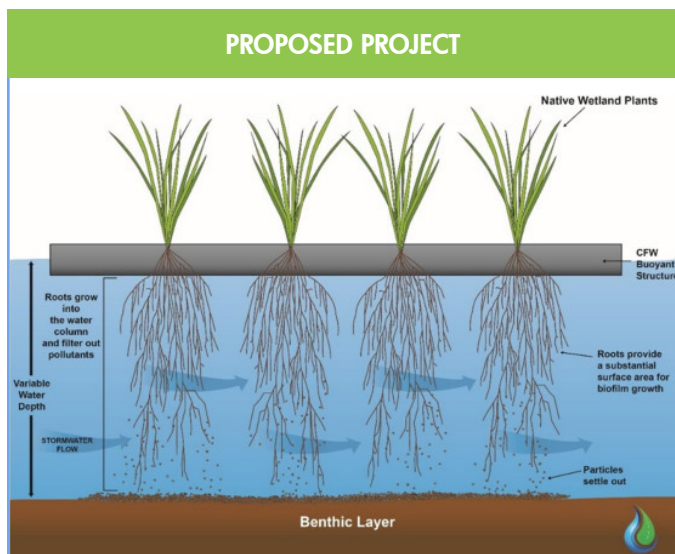
**APPROACH:** Remediation/Restoration

**DESCRIPTION:**

The proposed project is for funding to continue the management of invasive carp and install six (6) floating constructed wetlands (FCW) within Mill Pond to aid in the reduction of nitrogen and phosphorous loads in the pond. Mill Pond is listed as a NYSDEC 303d impaired water body due to the high levels of nitrogen and phosphorous that cause HABs every season. In addition, Mill Pond is located in a High Priority Area as per Southampton’s CPF Water Quality Improvement Project Plan (WQIPP).

Carp have been documented as the primary source of nitrogen and phosphorus loads in Mill Pond. Various methods of managing the carp may be used, including Baited Box Nets, bait and open water seine, drive carp to trap or seine haul using underwater speakers, open water hoop nets, shoreline fyke nets, electro fishing, and gill netting. Carp removal was performed on three separate events in 2019 and 2020, but resulted in the removal of only approximately 3,600 pounds of carp, which is estimated to be only 25% of the lake’s population. It was determined that the removal of 3,600 pounds of carp resulted in a direct reduction of approximately 9.20 pounds of phosphorous in the lake. With 9.20 pounds of phosphorous reduction, there is the potential to reduce wet algal biomass by 10,000 pounds and, therefore, reduce HABs.

In addition to the carp removal, the applicants proposed to install 6 new FCWs in Mill Pond. This would give the Pond a total of 8 FCW, which would help remove nitrogen, phosphorous and other pollutants from the water. In addition, these FCW would provide a habitat for juvenile fish, which the pond currently lacks due to the overpopulation of carp. Each FCW has the ability to remove up to 10 pounds of phosphorous every year which prevents the production of 1,100 pounds of wet algae. Therefore, if all 8 FCWs were installed, they would have the ability to remove 80 pounds of phosphorus every year and prevent the production of 88,000 pounds of wet algal biomass.



**REQUESTED AMOUNT:** \$ 706,360