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DEP's Wolfe's Pond Bluebelt Project Wins American Institute of Architects (AIA)/Staten Island 2006 Architectural Design Award

Commissioner Emily Lloyd announced that the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is a winner of the AIA's 2006 Staten Island architectural design award in the Landscape Architecture division.

Commissioner Lloyd said, "Not only has DEP's implementation of Bluebelt projects reduced the need to construct expensive storm water infrastructure on the Island, but it has provided environmental enhancements for Staten Islanders, many of whom have come together to assist us in maintaining the pristine landscape of the Bluebelt. We are very proud of our talented engineers and architects who have designed this unique water-management program. We are equally pleased that our Bluebelt program is serving as model for other municipal water facilities who see the positive results in using wetlands as natural corridors to improve drainage and maintain natural habitats."

The Wolfe's Pond Watershed is approximately 589 acres. DEP constructed two extended holding basins and a weir to manage storm water and improve flood control. These enhancements also included stream restoration, renewal of open spaces and protection for the Island's diverse wildlife habitats.

The Wolfe Pond Bluebelt was selected by a jury composed of architects and a member of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce and the Staten Island Museum. This project marks the completion of the 3rd Bluebelt Watershed on Staten Island. The first two were the Blue Heron and Richmond Creek watersheds, completed in 2002 and 2004, respectively.