

What are BMPs?

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are ways that we can change our behavior on land to prevent or reduce pollution in the groundwater, bays and rivers.

Best Management Practices can be simple, low tech and beneficial to the health of human and marine life. Using these practices will help protect water quality and support healthier ecosystems by protecting our estuary against pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil and gas products, and hazardous materials.



Stop Throwing Out Pollutants

Help the environment by properly disposing of hazardous household material at Stop Throwing Out Pollutants (S.T.O.P.) events.



Each town has different S.T.O.P. dates throughout the year. Check PEP's website for more information.: peconicestuary.org



Contact: Peconic Estuary Program
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Simple Ways to Protect the Peconic Estuary



Protecting and Restoring Long Island's Peconic Bays

Leave No Trace

- ◇ **Leave only footprints;** Stick to marked trails to avoid harming native flora.
- ◇ **Buy Local**
- ◇ **Throw out any garbage** you bring to the park or beach.
- ◇ **Clean up** your pet's waste
- ◇ **Keep a respectful distance from wildlife;** never feed wildlife for any reason.



Peconic Friendly Boating

- ◇ Avoid eelgrass meadows and abide by speed zones.
- ◇ Use pump out stations.
- ◇ Avoid introducing invasive species to new areas by doing this to your watercraft.:
- * **Check, clean, drain, dry and disinfect.**



Do at Home

- ◇ Plant native vegetation or install a rain barrel.
- ◇ Wash your car over a patch of grass.
- ◇ Use natural cleaning products.
- ◇ Update your septic system or cesspool.
- ◇ Properly dispose of old unused medication.
- ◇ Reduce or eliminate fertilizer use; never apply fertilizers before it rains.
- ◇ Leave grass clippings on your lawn.