## Health and Happiness Yard by Yard









#### We Can Make a Difference in Our Own Yards

- Fertilizers are the second largest source of man-made nitrogen pollution in the Peconic Estuary.
- Nitrogen pollution has lead to yearly algal blooms that have closed beaches and shellfish grounds, while causing massive wildlife dieoffs.

#### How To See (hear!) Your Impact?

Birds are indicator species They are telling the story.





## WHY? Loss of Habitat Use of Pesticides

#### Loss of Habitat

2

#### Habitat = Food, Shelter, Water



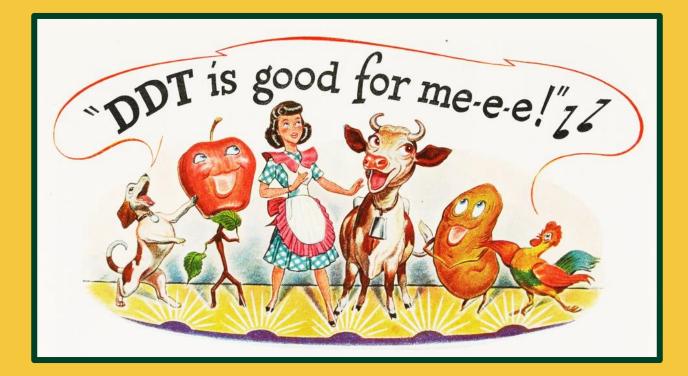


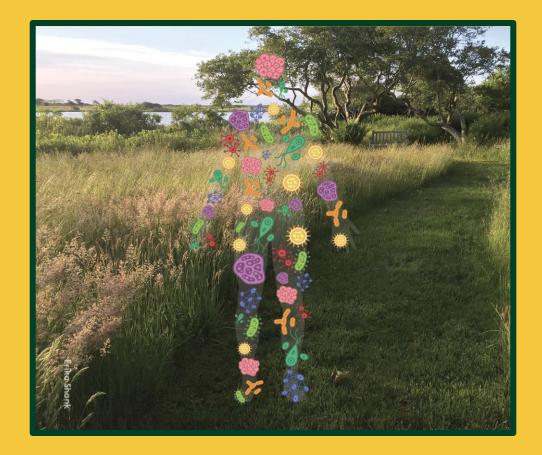


### What's In Your Yard?

118 pesticides have been detected in Long Island's aquifer.

The three most widely sampled pesticides in Long Island groundwater are STILL on the market











#### **Leave the Leaves**

#### Leave these Leaves Too





#### **Share Generously**



If You Don't Know Who It Is – Wait! Don't Kill It



# Ticks?

Food and Shelter Year Round ? No irrigation, no fertilizing, no pesticides Plant Natives 2/3 for the Birds



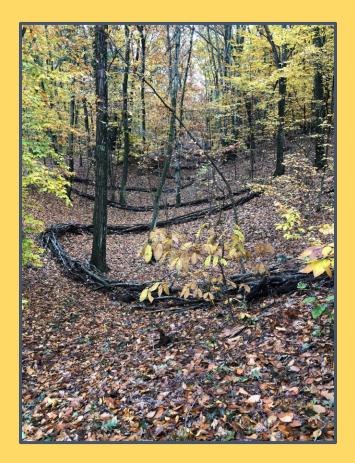


#### More Food- and shelter

#### Waste Not: save biomass Soil Food + Wildlife Shelter







## **Design for Independence**



## Less Lawn More Natives

2

#### Why Fertilize?

Mulch mowing and leaving grass clippings on the lawn provides over 50% of nutrient needs.

Clover, a nitrogen fixing plant, in most cases provides the rest.



### **Toward an Ethical Aesthetic**







# **The Basics of Nature Based**

- **1. Plant Natives**
- 2. Remove Invasives
- 3. Swear Off Pesticides
- 4. Reduce/Rethink Lawn
- 5. Close the Loop
- 6. Be Beautifully Independent

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