Program Description:
Since its inception the Long Island Water Education Program has reached over 3,200 students across Long Island. The program – designed and implemented by experienced, certified teachers - is a three-session series for fourth, fifth and sixth graders that addresses STEM and a sampling of Common Core/NYS Education Department standards. Aidable through BOCES, the Long Island Water Education Program has consistently received enthusiastic feedback from teachers and students alike.

Overview:
The program is composed of two classroom sessions and a field trip. In the one-hour hands-on class sessions students:
- learn about our aquifer (where our drinking water comes from)
- build mini models of the aquifer
- experiment to see how recharge and contamination happen
- study precipitation and runoff by simulating rain on permeable and impermeable surfaces
- learn the role land conservation plays in protecting our ground and surface waters
- the field trip, students get to appreciate open space first hand.

At our Shore Road Sanctuary groups of students rotate through stations including:
- review of runoff concepts at stormwater outlet
- coastal ecosystem investigation with an emphasis on mutualistic relationships
- a pollination game at the pollinator garden where they learn about the benefits of and threats to bees and butterflies
- grassland habitat exploration focusing on the food chain
- poetry writing about nature

Funding:
Classroom sessions: $175 each ($300 for both) and Field trip $200

- Nassau County BOCES: For more information please visit their website at http://www.nassauboces.org/Page/5483
- Western Suffolk BOCES: Educators should contact Peggy Unger at punger@wsboces.org or (631) 360-3652.

To learn how you can use the North Shore Land Alliance Long Island Water Education Program in your classroom, please contact Jane Jackson at 516-922-1028 or jjackson@northshorelandalliance.org.