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Tuscan Village in Salem, NH receives New England Water Environment Association Green Steps Award

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Salem, NH The New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) named Tuscan Village, a sustainable mixed-use development, the recipient of the Green Steps Award. The award celebrates innovation and sustainability within the wastewater and stormwater industry.

Project manager Max Faro accepts the Green Steps Award from NEWEA president Frederick McNeill

Tuscan Village is being developed on the site of the former Rockingham Park racetrack. The

170-acre property is a thoughtful community that balances the three responsibilities of sustainability (social, environmental, and economic benefits). Tighe & Bond led the floodplain improvement phase of the project, addressing environmental, stormwater, and floodplain accommodation needs across the entire property.

An existing irrigation pond was reimagined into the 2.5-acre Tuscan Lake with the attached programmable greenspace of Lake Park allowing for public access to greenspaces for the first time. A series of underperforming culverts were daylighted to restore 3,000-linear feet of Policy Brook on the property (formerly culverted for the development of the racetrack) which reshaped the floodplain to help alleviate flooding concerns during large storm events and at the same time created a robust habitat for aquatic and terrestrial species. Rain gardens were strategically placed throughout the property to continue with the aid of controlled stormwater runoff.

The town will see economic benefits, such as a re-established tax base and an increase in permanent jobs, as project phases are implemented. Tuscan Village has struck a successful balance between retail, office, and residential uses while keeping the site's environment and water ecosystems flourishing.

Max Faro, project manager at Tuscan Village Master Development, LLC, accepted the award at NEWEA's annual conference.

Tighe & Bond is an employee-owned, regional consulting firm in the Northeast, specializing in water and wastewater, transportation, and building services engineering; site planning and design; landscape architecture; and environmental science. By focusing on bright ideas, green strategies and clear solutions, the Tighe & Bond team develops creative, collaborative solutions to complex challenges.

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