For about a year, Center for the Inland Bays’ staff discussed the idea of creating an artificial nesting structure for Pelican, Great Blue Heron, and Egret. The design had to meet several criteria: It had to be cost-effective; it needed to be lightweight; it had to be able to handle the harsh conditions found in the Mid-Atlantic coastal region; and it had to look more like a tree than existing nesting structures already in use.

The photo above, taken in March 2009, shows the completed project including the decoys and various nesting material placed in the nesting baskets.

The photo to the right, taken in early June 2009, shows an adult Great Blue Heron standing over a young chick in the nest.
MIDDLE ISLAND ROOFERY

NEST POLES (4)

NEST BASKETS (20)

12/16/09

X = NEST LOCATIONS

"Use 1/4" UL screens, 6".5" for the nest (8"")

Flat Strip (12)

6" Nest Screen (10)

16" Overhead (48)

4" Screws (13)

Top View

Circ. = 11"

Bottom Plate (2.8)