



## News and upcoming events in the harbor!

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Reflecting on the past, looking to the future Event highlights Hutchinson LTCP Water events calendar Events & opportunities

#### **Ouick Links**

NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program

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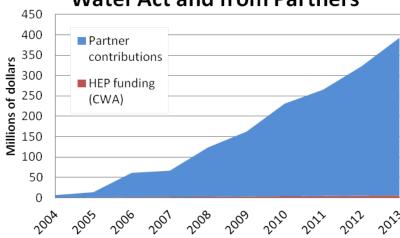
## REFLECTING ON THE PAST, LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As the NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program is transitioning to a new home, we thought it would be fitting to reflect back on some of the Program's accomplishments and acknowledge the enormous contributions of its many partners.

#### A Collective Effort

The program was established in 1987 and initially focused on developing a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, which was finalized in 1996. This Plan (or CCMP) laid out the vision for the Program, the main areas of focus, and specific objectives for each of these. Over the years, HEP and its partners have worked hand in hand, advancing the implementation of the CCMP's common goals. Though direct funding for the Program has been less than optimal, through collaborative work over the past 20 years, HEP has leveraged, on average, \$70 per each dollar directly allocated to the Program through Section 320 of the Clean Water Act.

# Cumulative Funds from Clean Water Act and from Partners

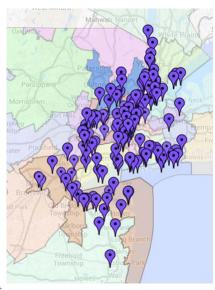


In fiscal year 2013 alone, HEP partners contributed over \$70 million to projects directly benefiting the estuary, including habitat acquisition and restoration, educational projects promoting stewardship, public access improvements, environmental

monitoring, research, and planning. It is worth noting that the actual contributions towards estuary improvement are likely much higher. This number is based on information provided by HEP partners and reported to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in September 2013. Many groups are carrying out great work improving conditions in the estuary, but not all were captured in this report.

#### **HFP Grants**

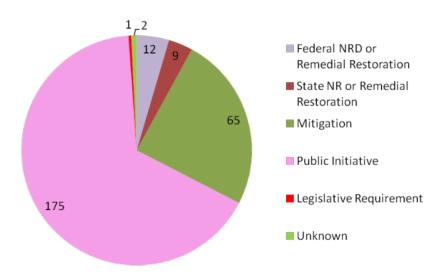
Over the years, the Program has funded hundreds of projects, including stewardship and public access grants, habitat restoration projects, materials and publications. Since 2000, HEP has provided over \$2.3 million to support a variety of projects throughout the estuary. These projects have leveraged almost double that amount in additional funds, bringing the total to \$6.5 million. You can find more information about past and current projects on our website, which includes an interactive map displaying most of the projects. You can also view our new map showing projects funded in different congressional districts.



HEP Projects by Congressional District

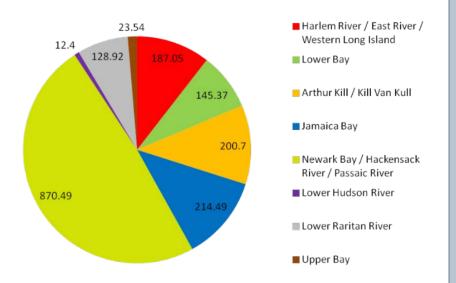
## Habitat Restoration Highlights

An estimate of at least 266 restoration projects have occurred in the Harbor Estuary region since 1985 (through 2012, from Carl Alderson, NOAA and Justin Bowers, Biohabitats, combined with 2012-2014 information gathered by HEP). The total spending on projects for which costs estimates were available (about 20% of all projects) was \$86 million for 54 projects, averaging \$1.6 million per project. While costs are not always tracked and often difficult to fully quantify, this suggests an even higher number invested in habitat restoration during this period. Funding and initiatives for these projects came from a variety of sources (see figure below).



Restoration projects by funding sources (Alderson and Bowers, 2012).

Restoration projects also were clustered in some planning regions more than others, likely due to a number of factors but particularly cost and opportunity.



Restoration projects by planning region (Alderson and Bowers, 2012).

A great example of regional restoration and resource-leveraging that the Program has supported is the Oyster Restoration Research Partnership. The Partnership, consisting of many federal, state, non-profit, and academic partners from both New York and New Jersey, launched a large pilot reef effort in 2010. Led by the Hudson River Foundation, the US Army Corps of Engineers, New York/New Jersey Baykeeper, the New York - New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program, the Urban Assembly New York Harbor School, and others, the Partnership implemented and monitored an

experimental reef project (six reefs throughout New York waters) seeded with over 50,000 baby oysters grown by students of the New York Harbor School. The New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program also supported the program in 2012, provided funding for the two years of monitoring of these reefs as a feasibility study for future restoration. Not only did this project involve many different supporters and participants, and garner much attention toward the restoration of our estuary, but also resulted in leveraging over \$1.5 million in funds and in-kind contributions by at least nine separate organizations.



The Oyster Restoration Research Partnership has successfully involved a large number of collaborators, leveraging in-kind and financial support to a multifaceted restoration effort.

## FUN EVENTS TO HELP THE ESTUARY!

Mark your calendars for two fun and meaningful upcoming events organized by the Human Impacts Institute:

Community Water Pollution Prevention Volunteer Day

When: April 26, 2-5pm. Where: Entrance to East River State Park.

What: Help install three hundred

"No Dumping, Leads to

Photo by Joe Reynolds

Waterways" Storm Drain Plaques along the North Brooklyn Waterfront and to give our community an Earth Week spring cleaning! All supplies will be provided. Registration is recommended. *More info...* 

Brooklyn Waterfront Treasures Bike Tour When: April 27, 1-4pm.

**Where**: street side of Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory, 1 Water St. Brooklyn, NY 112014.

**What**: Wrap up Earth Week joining the Human Impacts Institute Crew on a free bike tour up the Brooklyn coast of the East River. The tour will stop at various iconic locations where a special guest speaker will give a different talk about the East River waterfront. **Note**: Participants must provide their own bike, helmet, water, and any other necessary personal items. Youth are welcome with adult supervision. Registration is required. View the <u>full bike route</u>. <u>More info...</u>

Both events are part of <u>Waterfront Connections: North Brooklyn</u> <u>Estuary Stewardship Program</u>, a project supported by HEP and NEIWPCC via the HEP Stewardship Grants Program.

#### WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR THE HUTCHINSON?

Attend the Hutchinson River LTCP Kickoff Meeting to Provide your Input!

To improve water quality in the Hutchinson River, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is developing a Long Term Control Plan



Photo by the Hutchinson River Restoration Project

(LTCP) that will evaluate solutions to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into the waterbody. At the kickoff meeting you will have a chance to ask questions and share your ideas.

HUTCHINSON RIVER CSO LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN PUBLIC KICK-OFF MEETING Wednesday, March 26, 2014 Harry S.Truman High School 750 Baychester Avenue, 1st Floor, Bronx NY 10475 6:00pm to 8:00pm

DEP will provide a brief presentation at 6:30pm. More info...

### PUBLICIZE YOUR HUMAN-POWERED WATER EVENTS!

## Post on the New York City Water Trail Association Calendar

If you are planning your calendar for this spring and summer, you may want to consider posting your human-powered water events on the NYCWTA calendar.

If you'd like to post an event, please send an email to



Photo by Yonkers Paddling &

calendar@nycwatertrail.org

with the following information:

- \* name of event
- \* date, start and end times of event
- \* short description
- \* name of organizing group
- \* contact info for questions

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

For more events, check out our <u>calendar</u>. To post your Estuary-related event in our calendar, <u>please send us the details</u>! For up-to date events, <u>like our facebook page</u>.

Rowing Club.

#### **SAVE THE DATES**

#### March 19:

- NJ Invasive Species Conference.
- Bronx Waterfront Planning & Community Environmental Design Guidelines (annual water conference).

March 20: Bronx River Alliance and NYCH2O's <u>Wade into the Bronx River: "Water Blues; Green Solutions"</u> film screening.

March 24: HEP Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting.

March 26: <u>Hutchinson River CSO Long Term Control Plan (LTCP)</u> <u>Kickoff Meeting</u>.

**March 30**: <u>Weather in the Watershed</u>. Learn about a new alert system for of sewage overflow events.

April 16: <u>Daylighting of the Saw Mill River forum</u> in Manhattan.

**April 23 & 24**: Hudson-Delaware chapter of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) <u>Annual Spring Meeting: Coastal Impacts of Urbanization</u> at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Call for abstracts is open.

**April 24**: Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's <u>2014 Waterfront</u> <u>Conference.</u>

#### April 26:

- The River Project's 5K Shad Run.
- Human Impacts Institute's <u>Community Water Pollution Prevention Volunteer Day</u>.
- Clean Ocean Action's Beach Sweeps.

**April 27**: Human Impacts Institute's <u>Brooklyn Waterfront</u> Treasures Bike Tour.

April 29 & 30: NEIWPCC's <u>25th Annual Nonpoint Source Pollution</u> <u>Conference</u>. <u>Register</u> by April 9 for reduced pricing.

June 13: 6th Annual Sustainable Raritan River Conference.

**July 12**: Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance's *City of Water Day*. Governors Island and Maxwell Place Park in Hoboken, NJ.

**October 9 & 10**: <u>Passaic River Symposium VI</u>: Intersecting Priorities. Call for abstracts coming up in April.

#### FUNDING AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Hudson River Foundation's <u>2014 Mark B. Bain Graduate</u> <u>Fellowships</u>. **Deadline: March 17**.

The New York State Pollution Prevention Institute <u>K-12 Student</u> <u>Poster Competition</u>. **Application due March 28**. Posters due April 8.

Health Research, Inc. & the New York State Department of Health's <u>Local Hudson River Fish Advisory Outreach</u> <u>Initiatives</u> request or Applications. **Deadline: April 8**.

NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management's call for nominations for the 2014 <u>Walter B. Jones Memorial Awards for Coastal and Ocean Resource Management</u>. Nomination deadline: April 15.

US EPA's <u>Brownfields Training</u>, <u>Research</u>, <u>and Technical Assistance</u> <u>Grants</u>. **Deadline: April 18**.

New York City Department of Environmental Protection's <u>2014</u> <u>Green Infrastructure Grant Program</u>. **Deadline: May 6** and **October 21**. Workshops will be held March 19 and 27 and April 3 and 9.

The NY State Dept of Environmental Conservation is accepting applications to its <u>11th Annual Environmental Excellence Awards-Applications</u>. **Deadline: May 9**.

**ioby** (in our backyards), a community funding platform, accepts applications for environmental projects across the nation on an ongoing basis.

City Parks Foundation: <u>Community Group Recovery and Capacity</u>
<u>Fund Grants</u> Deadline: Rolling

\*\*Note regarding NY State Grants\*\*: New rules require prospective applicants to register in advance through the NYS Grants Gateway <a href="www.grantsreform.ny.gov">www.grantsreform.ny.gov</a> to be eligible to apply for any NYS grant. In addition, non-profits are required to "prequalify," which takes time up front, but saves time later. If a not-for-profit is not prequalified in the Grants Gateway by a grant opportunities application due date, the not-for-profit will NOT be considered eligible to apply.

For more info and to register or pre-qualify as needed, visit <a href="www.grantsreform.ny.gov">www.grantsreform.ny.gov</a>. Send any questions to: <a href="mailto:GrantsReform@Budget.ny.gov">GrantsReform@Budget.ny.gov</a>.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**<u>Draft Regional Ocean Planning Framework</u>** is available for

public review. Email comments to the MidA RPB (MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov) through March 31, 2014.

## **INTERNSHIPS**

<u>Summer Internships with the Human Impacts Institute</u>. **Deadline: April 28**.

TIDES CURRENTS COAST GUARD

