

ELECTRONIC UPDATE - October 6, 2006

WELCOME to the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary Program's **NEW** periodic electronic update on program activities, news, events and opportunities. This is a supplement to our quarterly *Tidal Exchange* newsletter. Please also visit us on our website, www.HarborEstuary.org.

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- 8) Conference: Living With Nature** - Friday, October 20 at the American Museum of Natural History

1) Hudson River Foundation seeking comments on desired ecosystem attributes for the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary

The Hudson River Foundation is leading a collaborative effort to develop a scientific basis for a comprehensive ecosystem restoration plan for the HRE. This Comprehensive Restoration Plan (CRP) is part of the federal Hudson Raritan Estuary (HRE) ecosystem restoration study and is being sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The Hudson River Foundation, working with a group of top estuarine scientists, has identified a set of ten important ecosystem attributes for the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary, specifying the desired conditions and amounts for each, called Target Ecosystem Characteristics or TECs. The goal is to create a mosaic of important habitats and conditions that provide new and increased benefits to the estuary. The TEC report will be completed by the end of this year.

The Hudson River Foundation is seeking comments at this early stage on the emerging target types from interested members of the public. To view or download the letter, visit www.hudsonriver.org/download/CRP%20Letter%2010-6-2006.pdf.

2) Help name our new Electronic Update!

Calling all creative harbor estuary enthusiasts! Send us your ideas for a pithy, witty, or otherwise brilliant name we can give to this Electronic Update -- HEP's first serious foray into email-based news. You may just earn a tote bag, a poster, or an enormous thank you from the HEP staff! We will take suggestions up until the end of November. Please email ideas to laura@harborestuary.org.

3) EstuaryLive! 2006 from Jamaica Bay

If you didn't catch our live webcast from Big Egg Marsh in Jamaica Bay on September 29th, don't worry - you're now in luck! The program is archived on the estuaries.gov website and can be viewed using either Windows Media Player or RealPlayer. THANK YOU to all of the partners who made EstuaryLive such a success, especially our co-host, the National Park Service's Gateway National Recreation Area - www.nps.gov/gate/jbu/jbu_home.htm.

To view HEP's EstuaryLive webcast visit www.estuaries.gov/archivedprogram06.html. To learn more about the broadcast see our Summer *Tidal Exchange* newsletter on the HEP website at www.harborestuary.org/news/TESum06.pdf and keep an eye out for more in the Autumn *Tidal Exchange*.

4) HEP Stewardship Work Plan

HEP's stewardship program is planning its efforts for 2007. We are looking for input from HEP committees, work groups, and all those interested in the harbor estuary to help make our future stewardship program effective and successful. If you have ideas or opinions, please take a look at the following questions to let us know what you think. Your thoughts will help us chart new directions - so we value your feedback.

1) What do you see as the most important and pressing issues (problems, impacts, concerns, threats, obstacles, etc.) affecting the estuary?

2) What specific projects do you suggest HEP explore and consider for its stewardship program that are related to habitat, public access, sediment control, toxics, pathogens, nutrients, or floatables? – for each project please do your best to describe in terms of audience and desired behavior change or specific outcome.

Feel free to call or email any suggestions, comments, or questions to Laura Bartovics at Laura@harborestuary.org or Cortney Worrall at Cortney@harborestuary.org.

5) Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadracentennial Celebration - 2009

The State of New York passed The Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Act in 2002, establishing a Commission to create a series of announcements, activities and enduring programs in 2009. The Commission will commemorate Hudson 's exploration of the river and Champlain's exploration of Lake Champlain in 1609 and the creation of Fulton 's steamboat in 1807- all major events in New York 's history.

To mark these anniversaries, a Legacy Projects Committee has been formed to prepare for the once-in-our-lifetime opportunity to improve, celebrate and preserve forever the natural splendor of these waterways in ways that are worthy of a hundred year celebration. The Draft Strategic Plan for the Commission calls for the development and implementation of Legacy Projects to fully realize the opportunities coming from the 2009 event. These projects will generate improvements to the environment that will last long after the celebration is over.

For more information visit www.exploreNY400.com or contact Fran Dunwell at ffdunwel@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

6) Meeting: HEP Citizens Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 11, 10:00-12:00, Municipal Art Society's Urban Center

The next Meeting of the Harbor Estuary Program Citizens Advisory Committee will feature presentations on Combined Sewer Overflows by NJDEP, Shadab Ahmad and Dan Zeppenfeld; and NYCDEP, Mark Klein, followed by Q&A. Also on the agenda will be a discussion on the development of the 2007 HEP Stewardship Work Plan (see # 4 above for details).

The Municipal Art Society's Urban Center, 457 Madison Ave, (@51st St) - take E or V subway to 5th Ave/ Madison/ 53rd St; or take #6 to Lexington and 51st St; or take B,D,F to Rockefeller Center Enter the Courtyard - and go in the door on your left marked "Urban Center."

For info on the CAC meeting call MWA at 212-935-9831 or e-mail achen@waterwire.net to RSVP.

7) Conference: Second Passaic River Symposium

Friday, October 13 at Montclair State University

The first Passaic River Symposium was held at Montclair State University in 2004, attracting over 200 participants to discuss activities in the Passaic River Basin. It is now time to reconvene those interested and active in the Basin to gauge what progress has been made in addressing problems, what new efforts have been launched, and what new challenges we still face. The "Lower Passaic River Restoration Project" will be prominently featured in the 2006

Symposium. Projects and issues in the upper River and tributary watersheds will also be examined.

For more information visit <http://pages.csam.montclair.edu/pri/symposium2006/>.

8) Conference: Living with Nature: A Conference on Sustaining the New York Metropolitan Region's Biodiversity Through Local Action

Friday, October 20 at the American Museum of Natural History

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Reception to follow

American Museum of Natural History

Kaufmann Theater

Developing a more sustainable society requires contributions from all sectors: science, business, academia, government, non-profit, and the public at large. This conference will bring representatives from these sectors together to examine the role of sustainability in conserving the New York metropolitan region's biodiversity. There is no charge for this conference, but registration is encouraged, as seating is limited.

For a detailed list of speakers and topics, please visit <http://sustainnyc.amnh.org> or phone 212-496-3423.

In conjunction with the conference, we will also present...

Living With Nature: A Resource Fair for Local Action

Saturday, October 21, 2006

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

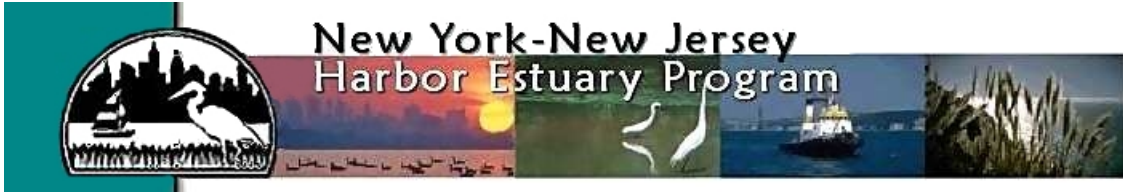
American Museum of Natural History

Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall, first floor

Exhibitors will share great ideas and hands-on activities for conserving resources, living sustainably, and protecting the biodiversity of New York 's metropolitan region. Free with Museum admission.

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Chairs of HEP Committees and Work Groups are encouraged to send content for inclusion in the next update. Please submit text to [laura@harboestuary.org](mailto:laura@harborestuary.org).



ELECTRONIC UPDATE - October 20, 2006

WELCOME to the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary Program's **NEW** periodic electronic update on program activities, news, events and opportunities. This is a supplement to our quarterly *Tidal Exchange* newsletter. Please also visit us on our website, www.HarborEstuary.org.

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- 1) Help name our new Electronic Update!**
- 2) EstuaryLive article in Newsday**
- 3) Dissolved Oxygen Environmental Benefit Fund** - applications due December 4
- 4) Artist wanted! for "Birds in the City" poster - Cornell Lab of Ornithology**
- 5) New online watershed course for broadcast meteorologists**
- 6) NYC DEP Water Quality Workshop** - Tuesday, October 24
- 7) Fifth Annual Environmental Education Expo** - Tuesday, October 24
- 8) Conference: Jamaica Bay: Plight or Promise** - Sunday, October 29
- 9) Conference: Changing Climate and Its Consequences in the Hudson River Valley** - Thursday, November 2

1) Help name our new Electronic Update!

We've received lots of great suggestions - keep them coming! Send us your ideas for a pithy, witty, or otherwise brilliant name we can give to this Electronic Update -- HEP's first serious foray into email-based news. You may just earn a tote bag, a poster, or an enormous thank you from the HEP staff! We will take suggestions up until the end of November. Please email ideas to laura@harborestuary.org.

2) EstuaryLive article in Newsday

Students harbor a love of marine life
MERLE ENGLISH
October 15, 2006

With the sound of the surf at the water's edge behind him, Jovanni Mendez stared at the creature with the armored shell and spiked tail.

For him, it was a first. "I didn't know the horseshoe crab," Mendez, 15, said.

Abdul Khokar, 13, held up a sea rocket, a plant that grows in sand above the high tide line. "It holds the sand together," he explained.

"I saw the killifishes," said Nancy Martinez, 15, referring to minnow-like, mosquito-eating fish.

To read the entire article, please visit <http://www.newsday.com/news/columnists/ny-nydiar154934122oct15,0,5231460.story>.

3) Dissolved Oxygen Environmental Benefit Fund for Western Long Island Sound and Jamaica Bay

Applications due Monday, December 4, 2006

The mission of the Dissolved Oxygen Environmental Benefit Fund 2006 (EBF 2006) is to restore habitat and improve water quality in the western Long Island Sound and Jamaica Bay. Approximately \$4 million will be available for projects and studies in the region. The span of the EBF is expected to be four years. Project proposals may extend up to two years and it is anticipated that the RFP will be re-issued in following years until suitable projects are awarded to exhaust the Fund.

It is anticipated that approximately \$1 million will be awarded through this first year's announcement. Projects may extend for two years, but projects of one year's duration are also welcome. The total funding for each project may range from \$25,000 to \$200,000. Total requested funding may not exceed \$200,000 per project. Depending upon the suitability of projects received, 5-7 projects may be funded.

For more information or to apply, please visit www.nfwf.org/programs/doe_benefit_fund.cfm.

4) Artist wanted! for "Birds in the City" poster

Urban Bird Studies at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology invites artists to submit samples of their work to be considered for a "Birds in the City" poster that will be used in "Celebrate Urban Birds!" events in cities throughout the continent in May 2007. The poster will feature illustrations of common birds in city environments and will be used as an identification guide, so the birds should be prominent and as accurate as possible.

The selected artist will receive an honorarium of \$1,000 and will be honored during Celebration events. The Lab will have full, non-exclusive rights to use the images to promote the Lab's programs or projects, but the artist will retain the original art and all rights.

Please submit three sample pieces electronically or via postal mail (don't send originals please—artwork cannot be returned) by November 30, 2006 to:

Urban Bird Studies
Cornell Lab of Ornithology

159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, NY 14850
urbanbirds@cornell.edu
607-254-2455
www.birds.cornell.edu/urbanbirds

Individuals from traditionally underserved communities are strongly encouraged to submit samples for consideration. Amateur artists are welcome.

5) New online watershed course for broadcast meteorologists

Watersheds: Connecting Weather to the Environment

This series of condensed learning modules introduces watersheds as the environmental context wherein the combined effects of weather events and human activities determine water quality, quantity and ecosystem health. Each unit provides the scientific context for key aspects of the watershed dynamic. Units are accompanied by useful tips that viewers can apply locally to guard or improve watershed health. There are six units in the series, each taking approximately 15 to 30 minutes to complete.

The goal of the course is to provide an understanding of a watershed as the local environment in which people's actions and decisions play against the background of daily and seasonal weather to affect the quality and health of the local watershed in which they live as well as the larger system of watersheds of which their watershed is one part.

Although designed for broadcast meteorologists, this course has many potential applications. To learn more or take the course, please visit www.meted.ucar.edu/broadcastmet/watershed.

6) NYC DEP Water Quality Workshop

Tuesday, October 24, 9:00am - 3:30pm
South Street Seaport Museum Melville Gallery
213 Water Street, NY, NY

The purpose of the workshop is to support non-formal educators in curriculum and program development by providing background and technical information about the City's ongoing harbor water quality issues, abatement projects, combined sewer overflows, wastewater treatment, and water quality monitoring programs.

It will also be an opportunity to network with other organizations interested in water quality in New York City, and to explore possibilities for collaboration. We hope that you will share information about your education initiatives and stewardship efforts. Please bring outreach materials to distribute to approximately 30 participants.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided by DEP. Space is limited, so if you would like to attend this free program, please reserve your place by calling 718-595-3506.

7) Fifth Annual Environmental Education Expo

Tuesday, October 24, 11:30am - 7:00pm
Pier 40, Houston and West Street, NY, NY

Teachers, environmental educators and educational resource providers are invited to join us in celebrating the Hudson River Estuary. Meet-and-greet and take back a wealth of material to help you add the estuary to your classroom. Try your hands at fishing or water testing right off the pier! Find out about in-class programs, field trips, estuary curricula, and teacher workshops. This program is a joint venture between The River Project and New York City Soil & Water Conservation District, Hudson Basin River Watch, and New York University's Wallerstein Collaborative for Urban Environmental Education.

This event will be held in two sessions: 11:30am to 2:00pm for after-school educators, and 4:30pm to 7:00pm for teachers. This free event is open to the public, and will take place at the Picnic Room at Pier 40, Houston and West Street. Pay parking available on Pier 40.

For more information, please contact Tad Barnes at events@riverproject.org.

8) Jamaica Bay: Plight or Promise. A Sharing of research perspectives.

Sunday, October 29, 10:00am - 4:30pm
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College CUNY, Brooklyn, NY

The purpose of the conference is to provide park staff, the general public and educational community an overview of the many research projects active in Jamaica Bay. This conference has also been identified as a required component of "Advanced methods in teaching science," a professional development course for elementary and middle school teachers. So many times we hear that awareness of natural resources and the cultivation of stewards starts in the classroom. This conference will be an excellent forum to share knowledge of Jamaica Bay with the broad educational community, and in turn, the children of New York City.

Hosted by the Jamaica Bay Institute, National Parks of New York Harbor Education Center and CUNY Brooklyn College's School of Education. Registration is required; contact Martha Duran at 718-354-4530 ext 237 to reserve your seat. There is no charge for the conference, but lunch will be provided for \$5; please indicate your interest when registering.

For the full conference agenda, please visit
<http://nbiinin.ciesin.columbia.edu/jamaicabay/jamaicabayEvents/>.

9) Changing Climate and Its Consequences in the Hudson River Valley: Past Present and Future

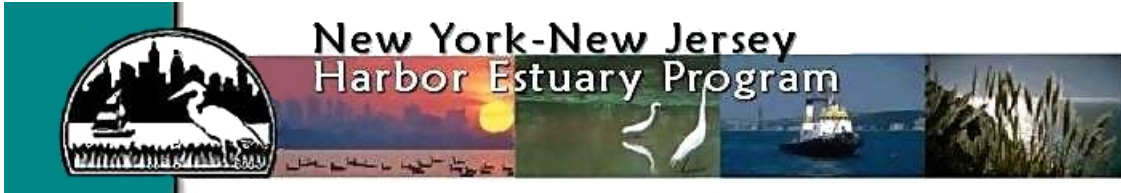
Thursday, November 2, 8:30am - 4:30pm
NASA/Goddard Institute for Space Studies
2880 Broadway, NY, NY

Emerging scientific research on consequences of how past temperature and ecosystem changes have dramatically affected life and resources in the Valley. Future systemic impacts on forests, fishes and New York City water supplies will be addressed.

Hosted by the Hudson River Environmental Society and NASA/Goddard Institute for Space Studies. Registration: \$30; HRES Members: \$25; Students: \$20. Increases after 27 October to: \$45/\$35/\$25. (On site, registration becomes: \$50/\$45/\$30.) Student scholarships available. Full Program, registration form & directions are on the HRES website at www.hres.org, or e-mail hres@nycap.rr.com.

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ELECTRONIC UPDATE - November 3, 2006

WELCOME to the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary Program's periodic electronic update on program activities, news, events and opportunities. This is a supplement to our quarterly Tidal Exchange newsletter. Please also visit us on our website, www.HarborEstuary.org .

In this issue:

- 1) Results are in from Hudson River Snapshot Day 2006!**
- 2) NOAA Announces Funding For Environmental Literacy Projects**
- 3) HEP Calendar of events - www.harborestuary.org/calendar.htm**
- 4) CMRC Business Stewardship Speaker Series - November 7**
- 5) Green Brooklyn Conference 2006: The Sustainable City - November 9**
- 6) Hudson River Foundation Seminar Series - November 14**
- 7) Meadowlands Comprehensive Restoration Implementation Plan (MCRIP) public meeting - November 16**
- 8) Green Technologies, Better Business for a Better Tomorrow - November 17**
- 9) Climate Change in New York's Hudson Valley - December 4**

1) Results are in from Hudson River Snapshot Day 2006! "A Day in the Life of the Hudson River Estuary"

The fourth annual Hudson River Snapshot Day held October 12th was a huge success. Over 1300 students traveled to the river to gather data on the Hudson and share the results to gain a better understanding of this historic and vital estuary system. Data from most sites are in and have been posted at www.ldeo.columbia.edu/edu/k12/snapshotday/Event06.html.

Hudson River Snapshot Day is designed to celebrate the Hudson River Estuary and educate participants on the uniqueness of our estuary as part of the annual recognition of National Estuaries Day. The event is coordinated by The Hudson River Estuary Program of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and Hudson Basin River Watch.

Visit www.ldeo.columbia.edu/edu/k12/snapshotday to learn more, or contact Margie Turrin (mkt@ldeo.columbia.edu) of Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory or Steve Stanne (spstanne@gw.dec.state.ny.us) of The Hudson River Estuary Program.

2) NOAA Announces Funding For Environmental Literacy Projects

NOAA's Office of Education (OED) is requesting applications for environmental literacy projects in support of K-12 education. Funded projects will have a duration of one and five years and will promote changes in K-12 education to expand the amount of Earth System Science taught in the classroom and improve student learning of that subject. Successful projects will catalyze change in K-12 education through development of new programs and/or materials, and/or revision of existing programs and/or materials by supporting transformative methods that expand the use of Earth System Science in K-12 classrooms.

All projects shall employ the relevant strategies articulated in the NOAA Education Plan (www.oesd.noaa.gov/NOAA_Ed_Plan.pdf). All projects should be implemented at a state or multi-state level and have evaluations that fully assess the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed project. It is anticipated that final recommendations for funding under this announcement will be made by June 30, 2007, and that projects funded under this announcement will have a start date no earlier than September 15, 2007.

Pre-proposals are REQUIRED and are due Wednesday, November 29, 2006. Full proposals are due Wednesday, March 21, 2007. For the full announcement and additional information visit www.oesd.noaa.gov/funding_opps.html.

3) HEP Calendar of Events - www.harborestuary.org/calendar.htm

There are so many estuary-related events happening in the region that we can't possibly list them all here! To find events in addition to those listed below, please visit the HEP Online Calendar at www.harborestuary.org/calendar.htm. HEP Committee and Work Group meetings are highlighted in blue.

4) CMRC Business Stewardship Speaker Series

Retail Businesses Leveraging Resources for Conservation

Tuesday, November 7, 9:00am – 10:15am

Hudson River Foundation

17 Battery Place, NY, NY

The event will be followed by a kick-off meeting of the New York Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP) from 10:30 – 12:30. For more details about the NY CWRP please visit www.coastalamerica.gov/text/cwrp.html.

RSVP to: business.stewardship@thecmrc.org. Space is limited. For more information about the Speaker Series and Business Stewardship Initiative, please visit www.thecmrc.org/prog-hbp-bsp.asp.

5) Green Brooklyn Conference 2006: The Sustainable City

Thursday, November 9, 11:30am - 5:30pm

Borough Hall

209 Joralemon Street

Brooklyn, NY

Admission: FREE!

Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment is excited to present the 2006 Green Brooklyn Conference: The Sustainable City, sponsored by Consolidated Edison.

With discussion panels, hands-on workshops, and exhibitor tables; the conference will bring new energy and excitement to discourse on the built and natural environments and how to transform Brooklyn and all of New York into a more sustainable city. The moderated discussion Panels are entitled, "The Built Environment: Sustainable Development for the 21st Century" and "The Natural Environment: Conservation, Energy and Sustainable Food for a Cleaner Greener Environment." Workshop topics may include greening education, shopping for green products, or transportation alternatives. Panelists and Exhibitors will include: Council on the Environment of NYC, NYC Office of Sustainable Design, NYSERDA, Earth Pledge, Slow Food USA, Bettencourt Green Building Supplies, Jonathan Rose Companies, Green Maps, Food Change, Sustainable South Bronx, and many more.

For more information, please visit www.bcue.org/greenbrooklyn.

6) Hudson River Foundation Seminar Series

A seminar series on scientific issues related to the environmental quality and resource management of the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary

TUESDAY November 14, 10:30am

Hudson River Foundation

17 Battery Place, Suite 915

New York, NY 10004

Sources of Nuclear Contamination in Hudson River Sediments as Revealed by Plutonium, Neptunium and Cesium Isotopes

Dr. Timothy C. Kenna, Lamont Doherty Earth observatory, Columbia University

RSVP to 212.483.7667 or info@hudsonriver.org. For a schedule of upcoming seminars, please visit www.hudsonriver.org.

7) Meadowlands Comprehensive Restoration Implementation Plan (MCRIP) public meeting

Thursday, November 16, 1:00pm - 5:30pm

New Jersey Meadowlands Commission Auditorium

The Meadowlands Comprehensive Restoration Implementation Plan (MCRIP) is a watershed-based plan for the restoration of the Meadowlands ecosystem that identifies the factors

contributing to ecosystem degradation, solutions to address the degradation, and opportunities to restore the ecosystem. The MCRIP is being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) with assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

The Draft MCRIP has been completed and your feedback is desired, the forum for which will be a meeting on Thursday, November 15 at the NJMC auditorium from 1:00pm - 5:30pm. Please respond no later than November 1 by contacting the Project Manager, Bryce Wisemiller at Bryce.W.Wisemiller@usace.army.mil or 917-790-8307.

Upon response, you will be sent a CD-ROM of the Draft MCRIP for your review. Comments are due no later than December 12, 2006.

8) Green Technologies, Better Business for a Better Tomorrow

Friday, November 17, 8:00am - 5:00pm
Wilkins Theatre, Main Campus, Kean University
1000 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ

This conference will highlight advancements in the acquisition and transfer of green, eco-friendly technology, both locally and globally, with a particular focus on renewable sources of energy, sustainable development and global leadership in clean technology during this critical time in the history of our nation and the world. Social, economic and geopolitical progress is driven by technological innovation, and Kean University is committed to the proposition that smart, clean, renewable energies and eco-friendly business practices benefit each and every one of us on this planet, and our children.

The Keynote Address will be given by Robert F. Kennedy Jr., environmental activist and Author of "A Contract with our Future." The conference will focus on commercial opportunities for entrepreneurs of green technologies designed to meet the challenge presented by the climate change crisis. We will hold lively panel discussions with a wide range of experts dedicated to green technologies.

For more information, please visit www.kean.edu/~techtran, email kutech@kean.edu, or call Maria Perez at 908-737-4652.

9) Climate Change in New York's Hudson Valley

Monday, December 4, 2006
Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, through its Climate Change Policy Office and Hudson River Estuary Program, has organized a one-day conference for local decision-makers to explore the issues surrounding climate change in the Hudson Valley. The goals of this conference are to:

- Present a summary of the latest scientific findings on existing and potential future impacts of climate change on human and natural communities; and
- Provide elected officials, planning boards, city managers, municipal engineers, and community leaders with insights that may help them plan for and manage these impacts.

The conference will cover existing and potential future effects on water supplies, agriculture, sewage treatment facilities, and transportation infrastructure, as well as the potential for loss of protective wetlands along the river shoreline. This will be a first step in gathering our local expertise so that we can learn together. The conference will be hosted for DEC by the Hudson River Environmental Society (HRES) on Monday, December 4, 2006 at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. Registration information will be posted on www.hres.org.

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