

Volunteer for the Sound

WORKING TOGETHER TO RESTORE AND PROTECT THE SOUND



August 25, 2016

DO YOUR PART - VOLUNTEER FOR THE SOUND!



There are many organizations in Connecticut and New York that need your help restoring and protecting Long Island Sound!

Upcoming Connecticut Volunteer Events

Saturday, August 27, 2016 at 2:00pm-4:00pm – Greenville Dam Fishing Area Cleanup. Join Save the Sound at the Greenville Dam and Fishing Area at the corner of North Main Street and 12th Street in Norwich, CT. For more information, contact Denise Hawk at 860-917-5701.

Saturday, September 10, 2016 at 9:00am-10:00am – Beach Cleanup at East Haven Town Beach – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup with Clean Up East Haven in East Haven, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 10, 2016 at 9:30am-3:00pm – Oyster Shell Park Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup with the Norwalk River Watershed Association in Norwalk, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 8:00am-12:00pm – South Street Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in West Haven, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-2:00pm – Rocky Neck State Park Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Niantic, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-1:00pm – Black Rock/Saint Mary's by the Sea Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Bridgeport, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-1:00pm – Sono Harbor Waterfront Overlook Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Norwalk, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-12:00pm – Hammonasset State Park/ East Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Madison, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-12:00pm – Old Mill Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Westport, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-11:00am – Hammonasset State Park/ West Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the Friends of Hammonasset for a beach cleanup in Madison, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:45am-12:15pm – Green Harbor Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the Three Rivers Community College for a beach cleanup in New London, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am-2:00pm – Bluff Point State Park Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the Mystic Aquarium for a beach cleanup in Groton, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am-2:00pm – Norwalk Island Kayak Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a kayak cleanup in Norwalk, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am-2:00pm – Long Wharf Nature Preserve Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the New Haven Land Trust for a beach cleanup in New Haven, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am-2:00pm – West Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the Westbrook Land Conservation Trust for a beach cleanup in Westbrook, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am-11:00am – Oak Street Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the Cedar Island Marina Research Lab for a beach cleanup in West Haven, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:30am-12:00pm – Ocean Beach Park Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the Cedar Island Marina Research Lab for a beach cleanup in New London, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 11:00am-12:00pm – Cini Park/Hole-in-the-Wall Beach/McCook's Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the East Lyme High School for a beach cleanup in East Lyme, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 9:00am-12:00pm – New London Dive Cleanup – Join Save the Sound with the SECONN Divers for an underwater dive cleanup in New London, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 – Connecticut River Watershed Council's 20th Annual Source to Sea Cleanup. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 9:00am-12:00pm – West Haven Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Sandy Point, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10:00am-1:00pm – South Pine Creek Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Fairfield, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10:00am-12:00pm – Madison Surf Club Cleanup – Join Save the Sound and the Madison Beach and Recreation Department for a beach cleanup in Madison, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 1:00pm-3:00pm – Gulf Beach Cleanup – Join Save the Sound for a beach cleanup in Milford, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 1:00pm-3:00pm – Saugatuck River Area Cleanup – Join Save the Sound and the Saugatuck Cong. Church Youth Group for a beach cleanup in Westport, CT. For more information, [click here](#).

Upcoming New York Volunteer Events

Sunday, September 4, 2016 at 8:00am-1:00pm – Shellfish Restoration with Coastal Steward. Meet at the Coastal Steward dock in Mt. Sinai, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Sunday, September 11, 2016 at 8:00am-1:00pm – Shellfish Restoration with Coastal Steward. Meet at the Coastal Steward dock in Mt. Sinai, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am-12:00pm: International Coastal Clean-up at Sands Point Preserve Conservancy. Join the Sands Point Preserve Conservancy for the International Coastal Clean-up Event in Sands Point, NY. Be a part of the amazing Ocean Conservancy's environmental initiative: come for a morning to clean our 3/4 mile of beautiful coastline and stay for the day to explore our 216-acre preserve and historic mansions. To register, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am-12:00pm: International Coastal Cleanup at Soundview Park. Spend your day at one of NYC's beautiful Bronx waterfront parks while giving back to our city's oceans and coastlines. Please join Friends of Soundview Park and the Bronx River Alliance for International Coastal Cleanup! Meet like-minded people while giving back and exploring some of the city's most scenic green spaces. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Orchard Beach/ Twin Islands. Join NYC Parks and Recreation for a beach cleanup in Bronx, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:30am: International Coastal Cleanup at Rye Nature Center. Join the Rye Nature Center for a coastal cleanup in Blind Brook, Rye, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary. Join Westchester County Parks for a coastal cleanup in Rye, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:30am: International Coastal Cleanup at Tappen Beach. Join the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor for a coastal cleanup in Sea Cliff, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 10:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Caumsett State Historic Park Preserve. Join Nassau BOCES for a coastal cleanup in Lloyd Harbor, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Nissequogue River State Park. Join NY State Parks for a coastal cleanup in Kings Park, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Sunken Meadow State Park. Join NY State Parks for a coastal cleanup in Kings Park, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Orient Beach State Park. Join NY State Parks for a coastal cleanup in Orient, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00am: International Coastal Cleanup at Wildwood State Park. Join NY State Parks for a coastal cleanup in Wading River, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 8:00am-1:00pm – Shellfish Restoration with Coastal Steward. Meet at the Coastal Steward dock in Mt. Sinai, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 18, 2016 at 9:00am – International Coastal Cleanup at Thomas Pell Wildlife Sanctuary/Pelham Bay Park. Join the Hutchinson River Restoration Project for a coastal cleanup in Bronx, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 8:00am-12:00pm – Oyster Bay Harbor Cleanup/ International Coastal Cleanup. Join the Town of Oyster Bay and Friends of the Bay for the Oyster Bay Harbor Fall Cleanup at Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park in Oyster Bay, NY. For more information, call 516-677-5853.

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10:30am-6:00pm – International Coastal Cleanup at South Brother Island. Join the Harbor Lab for a beach cleanup in Bronx, NY. Paddle to normally forbidden South Brother Island and help this vital harbor heron habitat thrive! For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10:00am-12:00pm – International Coastal Cleanup at Manor Beach. Join the Sheldrake Environmental Center for a beach cleanup in Larchmont, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10:00am-12:00pm – International Coastal Cleanup at the Larchmont Reservoir Conservancy. Join the Sheldrake Environmental Center for a beach cleanup in Larchmont, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 12:00pm – International Coastal Cleanup at Little Neck Bay. Join the Boy Scouts for a coastal cleanup in Queens, NY. For more information, [click here](#).

Volunteer Spotlight

Article by Nicole Cantatore, the Harbor Watch Lab Director at Earthplace, and Sarah Crosby, PhD, the Harbor Watch Director at Earthplace, as featured in the winter 2015-2016 issue of Sound Update:



Student intern Liz Perry collects a water sample. Credit: Harbor Watch

At **Harbor Watch**, we believe that people learn best through hands-on experiences. Students come to Harbor Watch for just that; a place to apply classroom concepts to real-world pollution issues. Through our comprehensive training methods, volunteers develop translatable research and critical thinking skills through data analysis and gain an appreciation of the environment. Over the last six years, twenty eager high school and college interns have undertaken the task of conducting track-down surveys on the Pequonnock River, which runs from Monroe through Trumbull and discharges to Long Island Sound in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Working alongside staff, volunteers collect dissolved oxygen, conductivity, and water temperature data as well as a water sample. Back in the Harbor Watch laboratory, volunteers don gloves and goggles and begin the process of membrane filtration to analyze the samples for fecal coliform and *Escherichia coli* bacteria, the indicator bacteria of choice by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) because its presence indicates the potential for more harmful bacteria. Monitoring began at ten sites in the river in 2009. Since then, volunteer teams and staff have identified areas of elevated bacteria counts, established additional sites upstream, and are working on tracking down the pollution sources. In addition to indicator bacteria, the 2015 monitoring season has been augmented to include nutrient testing for ammonia, phosphorous, and iron, due to sites that have visible indicators of pollution such as plant growth and orange slimes caused by iron bacteria. Technical reports are written at the end of each monitoring season, distributed to local and state government officials, and made available to the public on our website, www.harborwatch.org.

Data from early in the 2015 monitoring season for the Monroe section of the river show generally low levels of indicator bacteria and additional data collection is ongoing.

The Pequonnock River is a unique case study due to the variety of land use areas throughout the watershed. Our citizen scientist volunteers are given the opportunity to sample in natural, residential, and commercial settings, which give them a clearer understanding of how human actions can directly impact the waterway. Volunteers have to use critical thinking skills to analyze the data and make hypotheses about where pollution sources are located. Bacterial pollution sources are most often tracked to leaking cesspools or broken sewer lines. Nutrient sources have been most often traced back to over-fertilized yards, and possibly a transfer station that was discovered upstream from one of the sampling sites. Investigations are still ongoing, and Harbor Watch is in the process of seeking funding to grow the scope of this research project. We believe future testing is necessary to identify point sources entering the River and our goal is to be able to use track down surveys to pinpoint these sources for remediation.

If you would like to share your story of how someone is making a difference around the Sound, please contact Amy Mandelbaum, Long Island Sound Study Outreach Coordinator, at 631-632-9216 or acb328@cornell.edu.

If your organization would like its volunteer event advertised in this volunteer e-newsletter, our [Volunteer Opportunities web page](#), or our [Facebook page](#), please send Amy Mandelbaum, Long Island Sound Study Outreach Coordinator, an [email](#).

FURTHER INFORMATION

- [Long Island Sound Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [What You Can Do To Protect Long Island Sound](#)
- [Long Island Sound Study Website](#)

Amy Mandelbaum

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