



LISCIF New York State Learning Exchange: Stewardship and Volunteer Management

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Discussion Overview

Unified Water Study

Bacteria Monitoring

Volunteer Management

Local Stewardship



STS staff conducting water quality sampling at sunrise in New Rochelle Harbor, NY

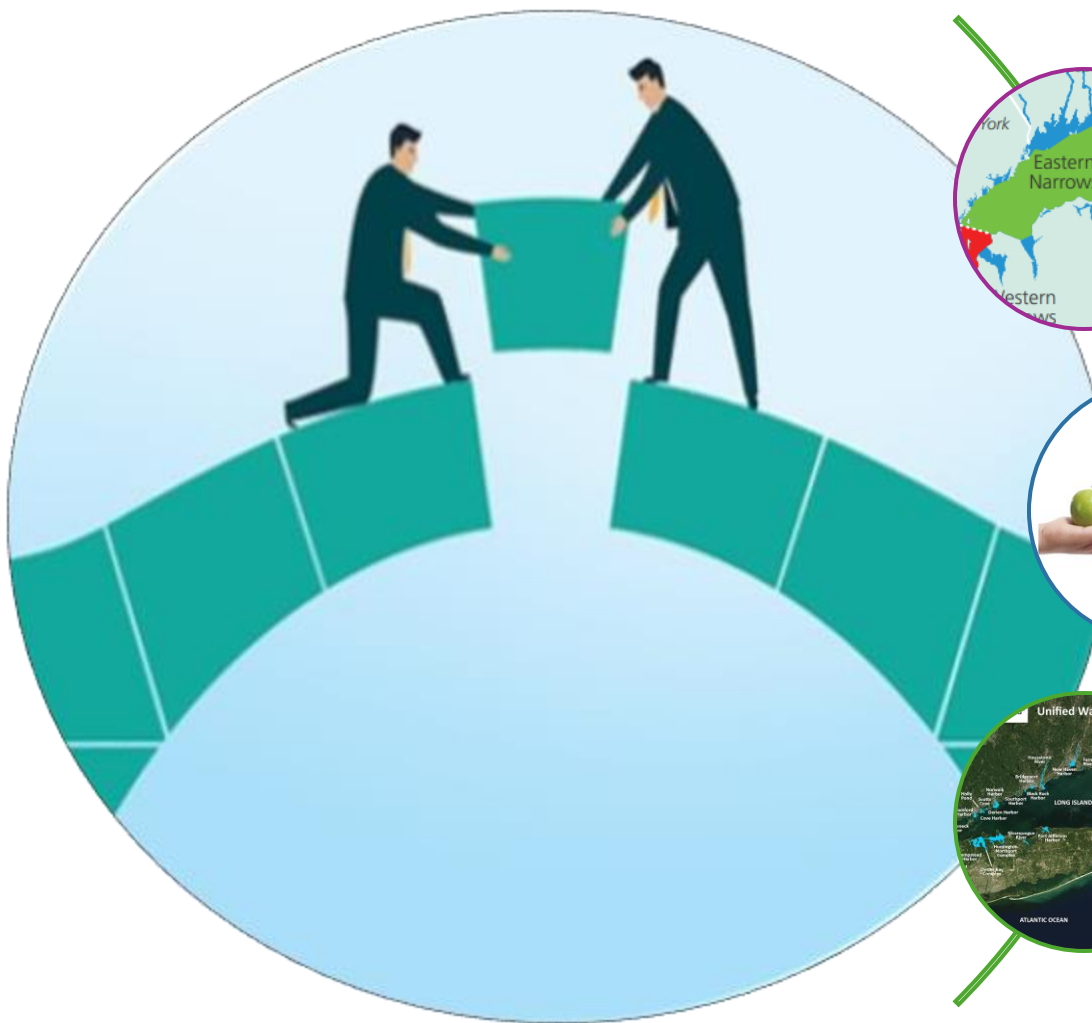


Save the Sound[®]
Action for our region's environment.

Save the Sound leads environmental action in the Long Island Sound region. We fight climate change, save endangered lands, protect the Sound and its rivers, and work with nature to restore ecosystems.



Unified Water Study (UWS) – Filling in the Gaps



Abundance of data existed for LIS open waters, but not bays & harbors



UWS provides comparable environmental health data around the margins of LIS

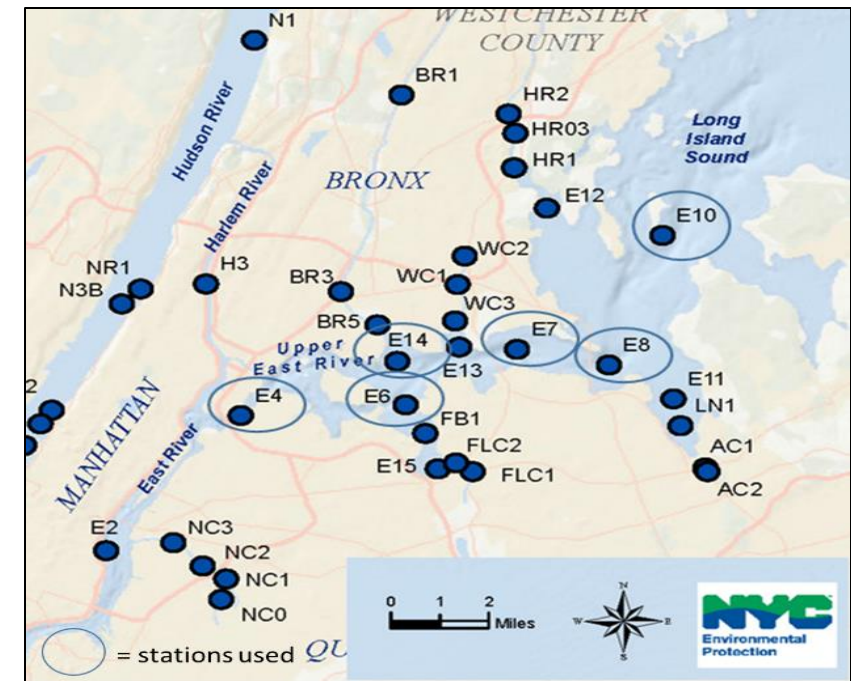
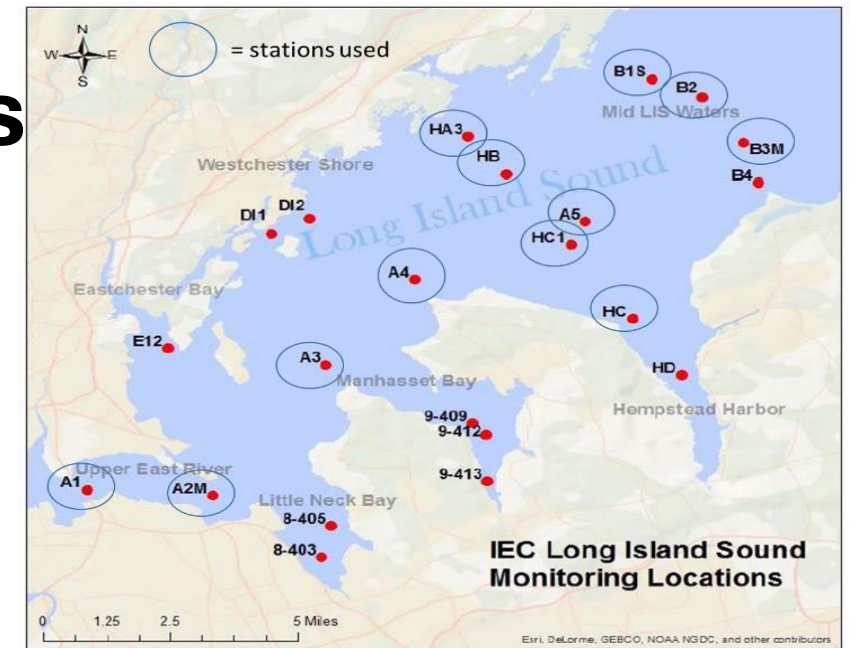
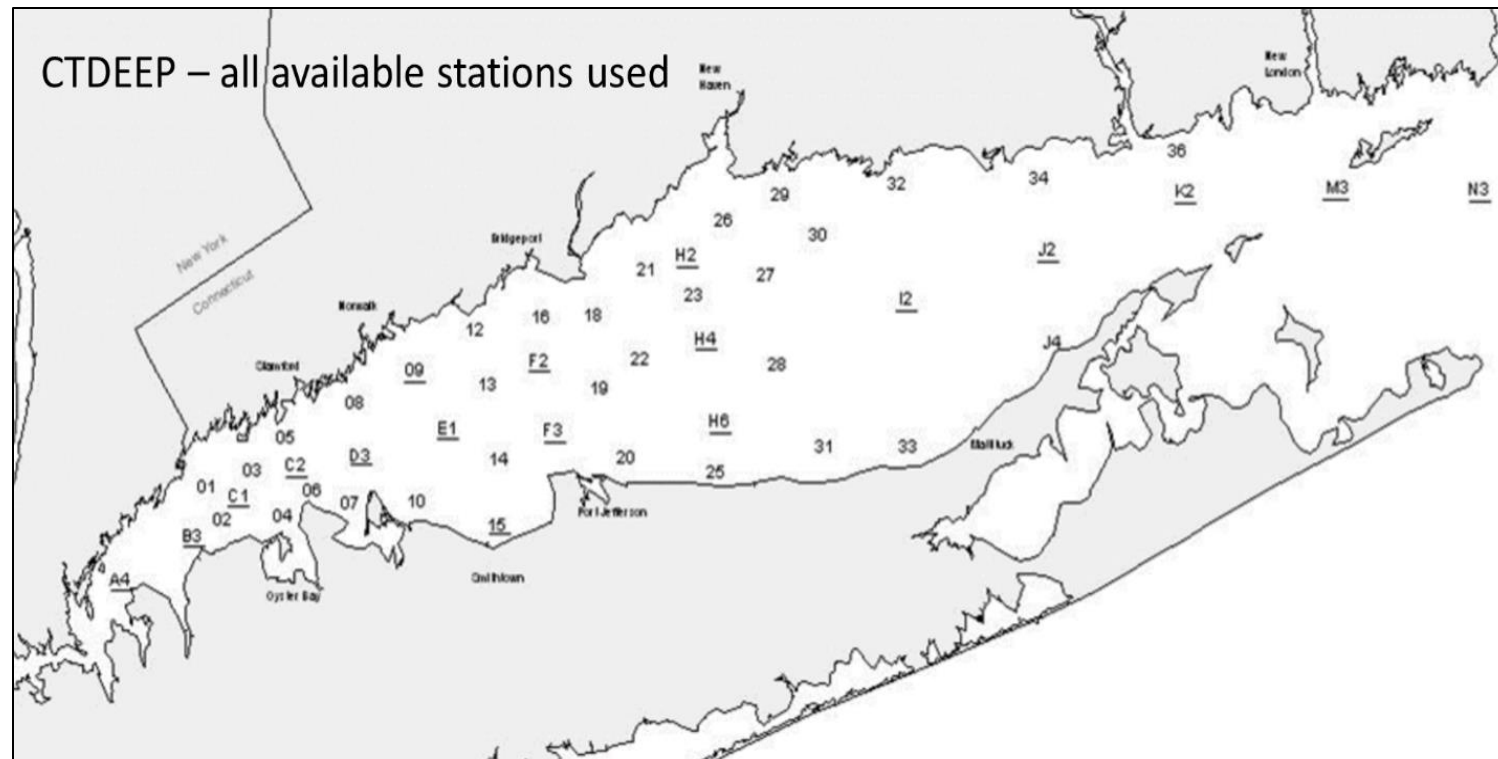


27 Groups monitoring in 47 embayments (2025)



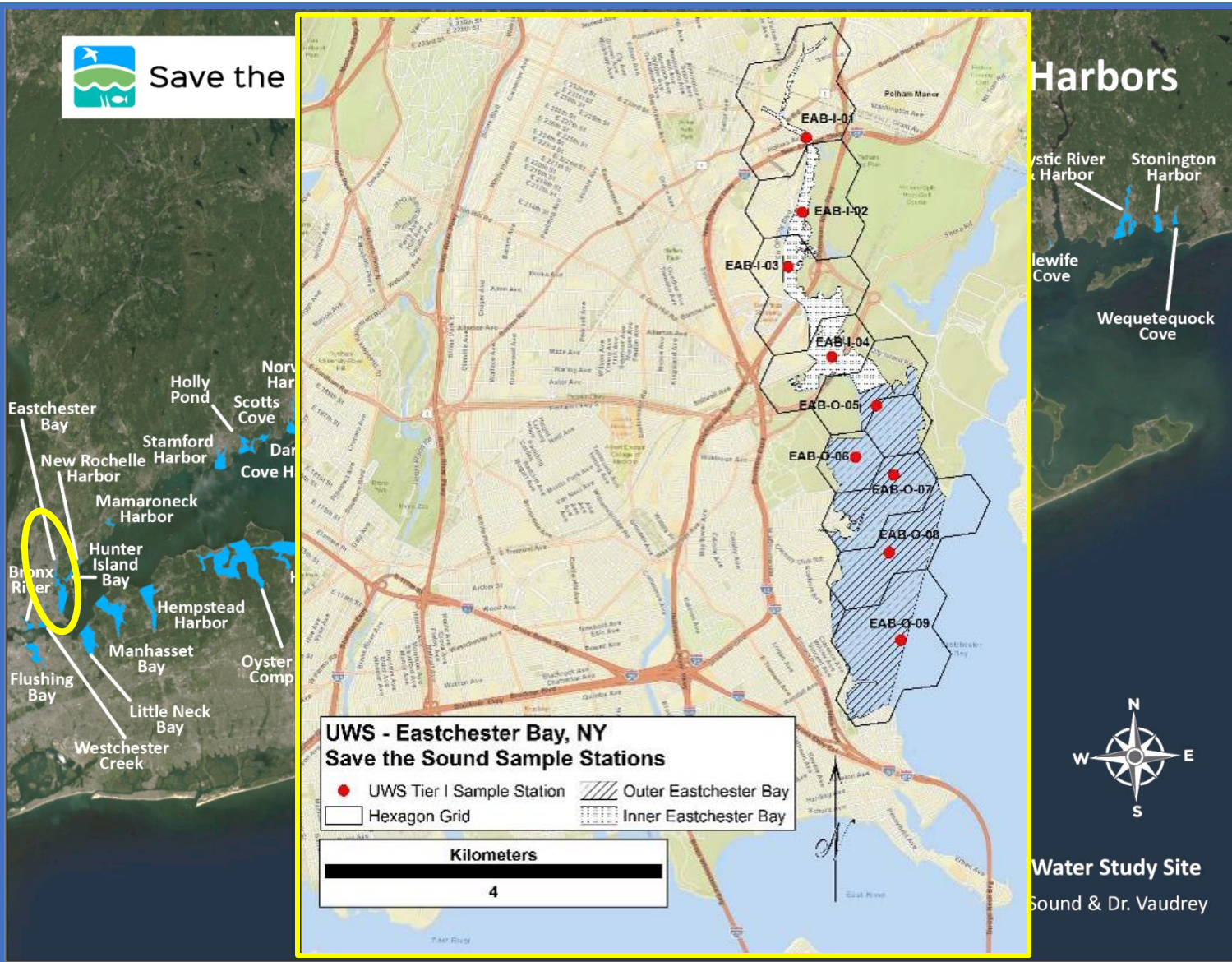
LIS Open Waters Data Sources

CT Dept. of Energy and Env. Protection
Interstate Environmental Commission
NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection





UWS and Save the Sound Sites



47

Tier I Embayments

16

Tier II Embayments

272

Tier I Stations

Monitored by Save the Sound Staff	Tier I	Tier II
Eastchester Bay (NY)	X	X
Mamaroneck Harbor (NY)		X
Hunter Island Bay (NY)	X	
New Rochelle Harbor (NY)	X	



UWS Water Quality Parameters

Tier 1

- Dissolved Oxygen
- Turbidity
- Chlorophyll *a*
- Qualitative Macrophytes
- Temp. & Salinity

Tier 2

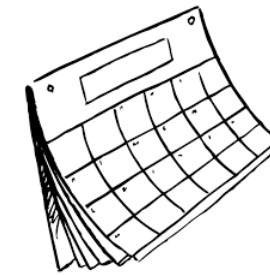
- Continuous Dissolved Oxygen
- Quantitative Macrophytes
- Nutrients





Unified Water Study Season and QAPP

**6 Month Monitoring Season:
May – October**



**Conducted in compliance with an EPA-
Approved Quality Assurance Project
Plan**





Annual Field and Procedures Training

- Office Trainings & Online Module Trainings
- Field Audits and Technical Support all Season
- Mandatory, Ensures QAPP Compliance (and Good Rake Toss Form!)



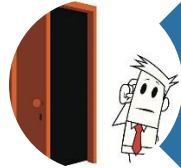


UWS Loan Program

Includes all necessary Instruments,
Supplies, and Expendables



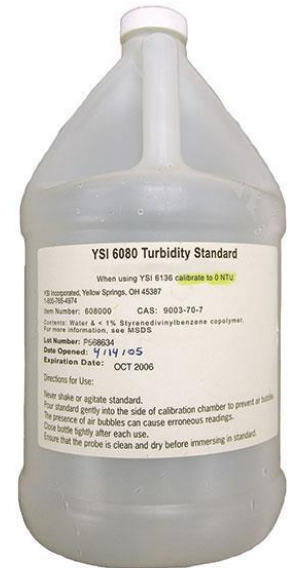
Lowers Study Expenses



Eases Group Entry
Process

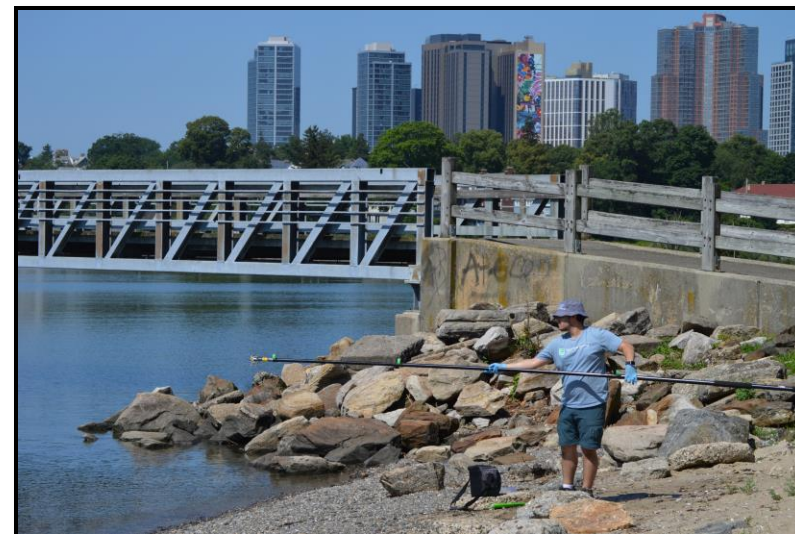


Enhances Data
Comparability



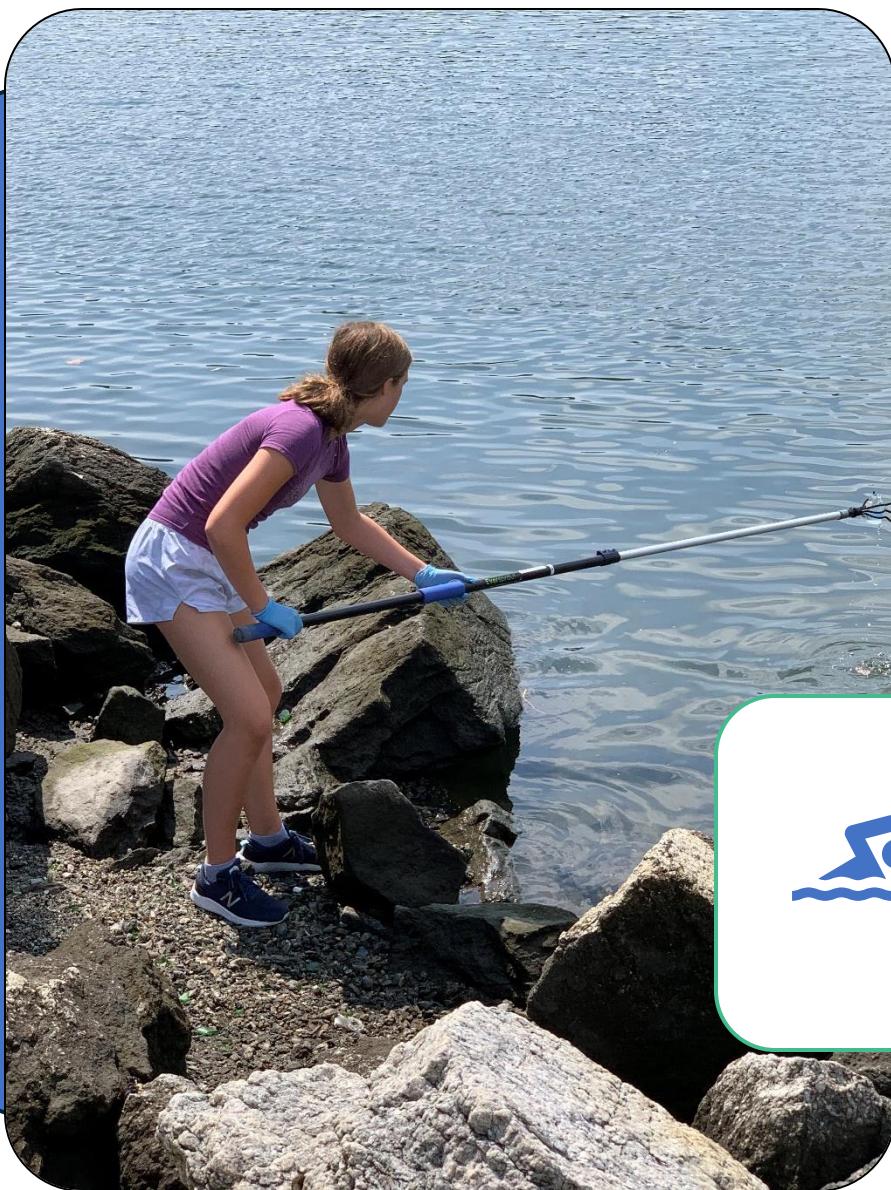


Bacteria Monitoring Program





Water Quality Monitoring



Since 2013, Save the Sound has run a seasonal water quality monitoring program to measure pathogen indicator bacteria levels at beaches, embayments, shorelines, and rivers.



65+ monitoring sites in Greenwich, coastal Westchester County, Queens & Nassau.





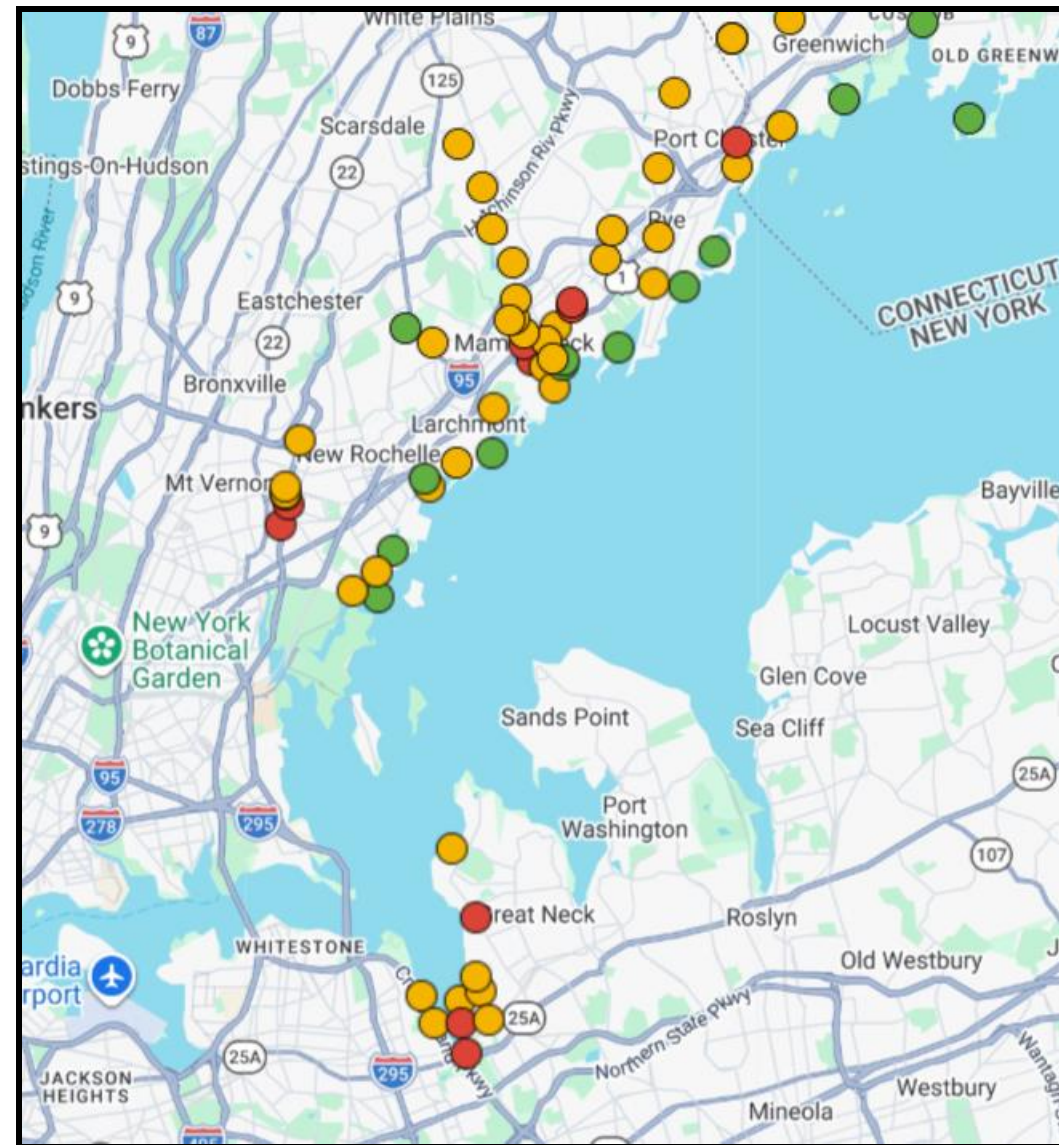
Bacteria Monitoring Program

700+ Samples analyzed

12-week monitoring season

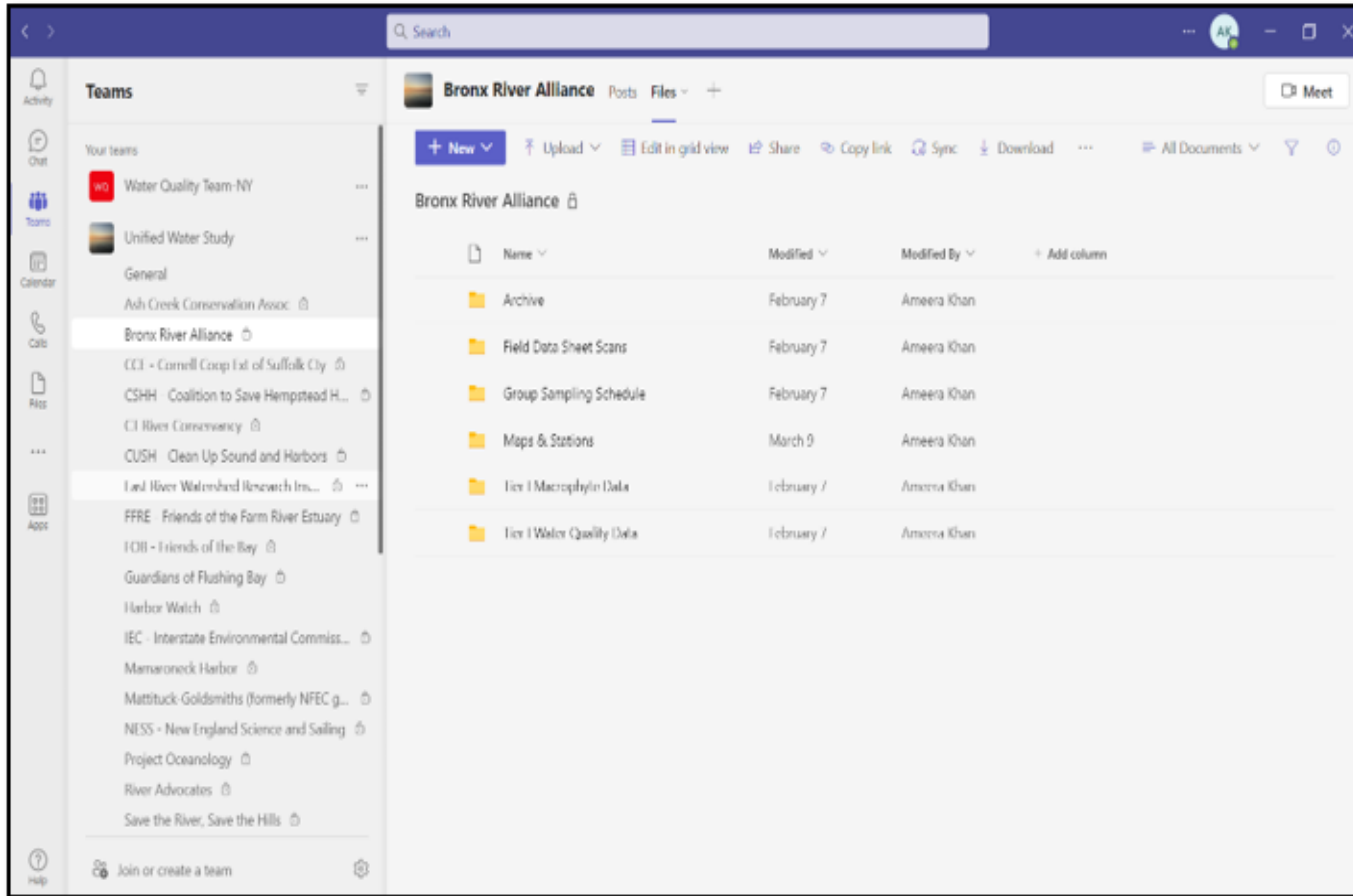
Community Science

Data Accessibility





UWS Management – Daily Support



MS Teams

Sample Shipments

Technical Support



UWS Management – Instruments and Supplies





Volunteer Management – Bacteria Monitoring

Volunteer Training

Sampling Kits

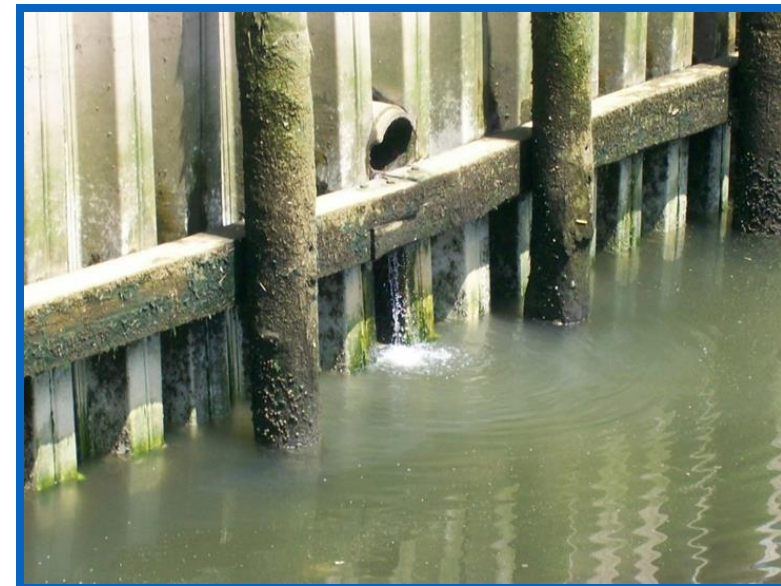
Site Assignments

Communication





Local Stewardship - Sampling



**Pollution watchdog efforts
and
exploratory sampling
year-round**

Local Stewardship

Immediate data access and visualization

Advocacy support

Volunteers see their data with data from other locations

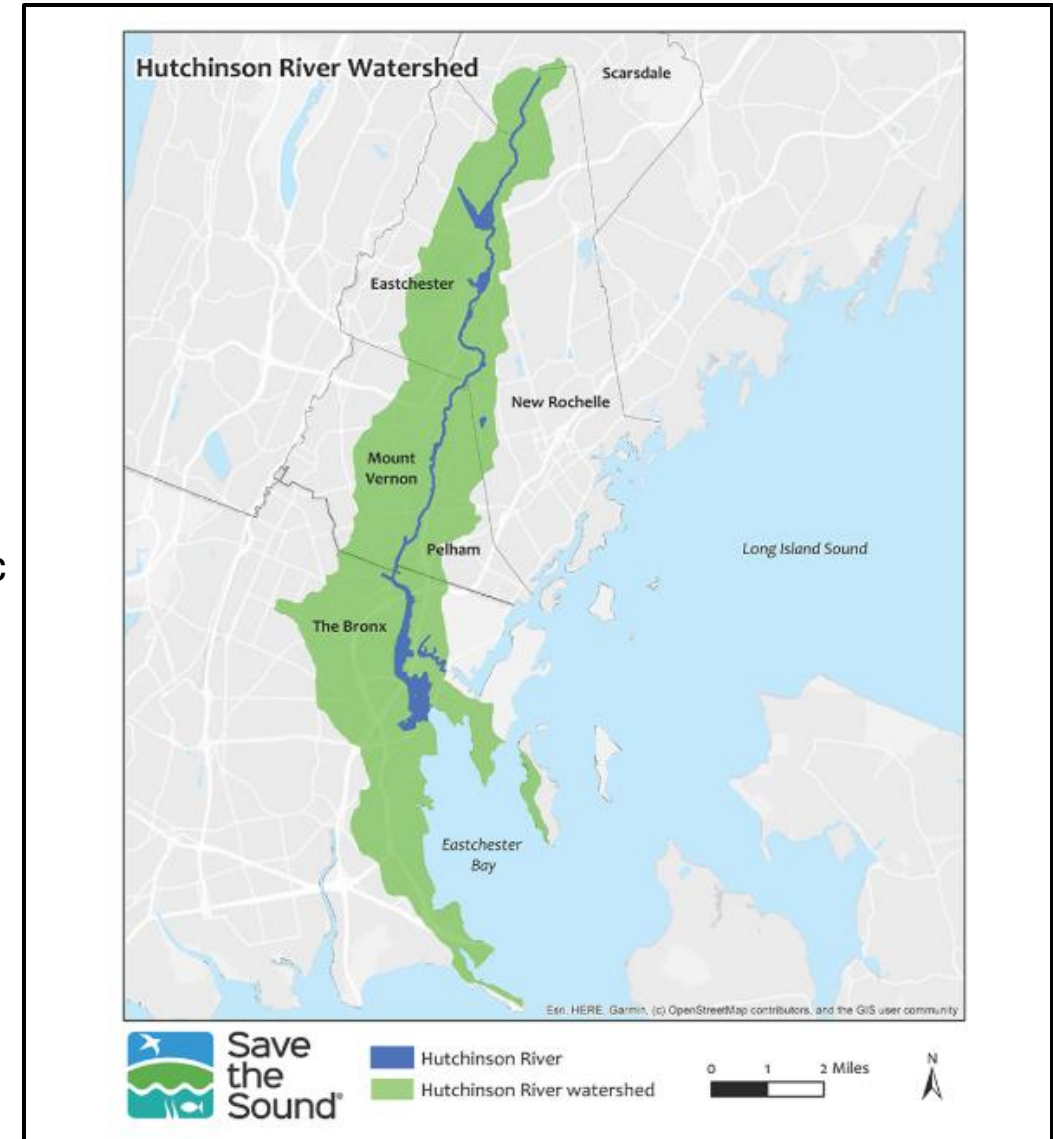
Group collaboration

- Legend
- Atlantic Ocean
 - Bay, Tidal
 - Open Sound
 - River/Stream
 - Lake/Pond
 - Groundwater
 - Stormwater Pipe
 - Combined Sewer Pipe



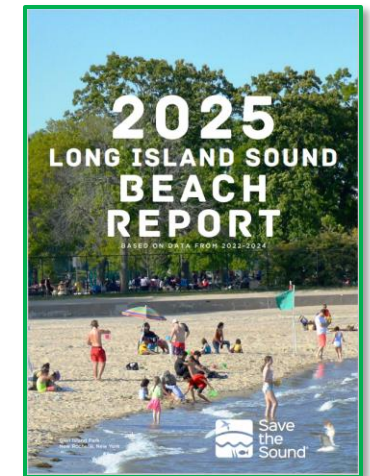
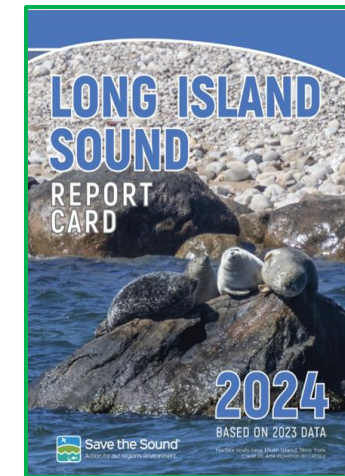
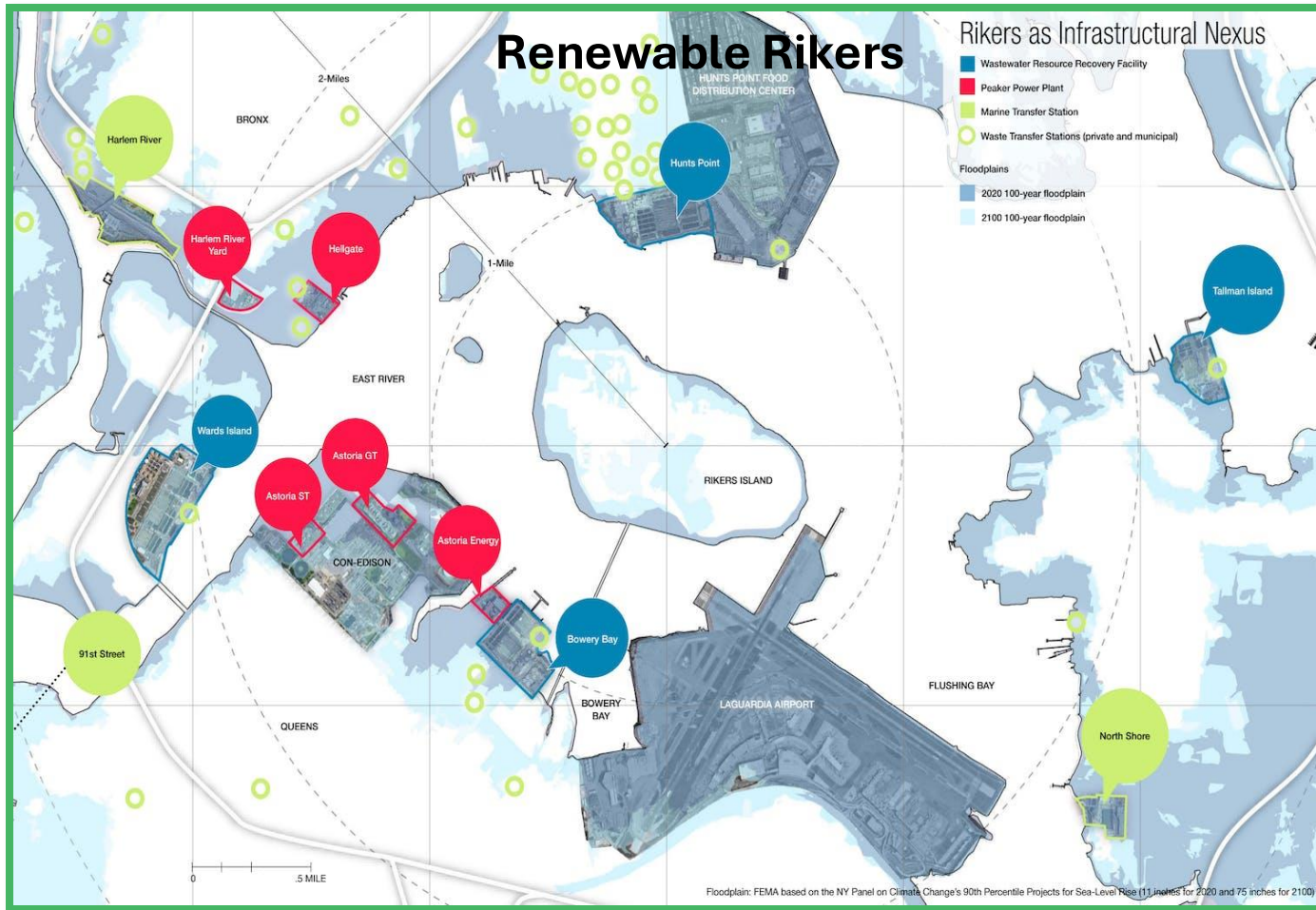
Local Stewardship – Hutchinson River Watershed Plan

- Identify nonpoint source pollution contributing to water quality impairment and design recommendations for improvement
- Identify implementable restoration and stormwater mitigation projects with a focus on those that provide flood mitigation and emphasize nature-based solutions
- Engage and educate municipal agencies, key stakeholders in the watershed, and the public through the formation of a Watershed Steering Committee, volunteer opportunities, public meetings, and webinars.
- Municipalities within the watershed include:
 - Scarsdale
 - Eastchester
 - New Rochelle
 - Pelham
 - Pelham Manor
 - Mount Vernon
 - The Bronx (Phase II – Now underway!)





Local Stewardship – Clean Water Advocacy



Data-driven Reports



Thank you! Questions/Comments?
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