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New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program

News and upcoming events in the harbor!

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SATURDAY IS NATIONAL ESTUARY DAY!!

Celebrate National Estuary Day by enjoying our estuary!

This Saturday, September 24th, is [National Estuary Day!](#) What better way to celebrate your local waterway than getting outside and on the water!



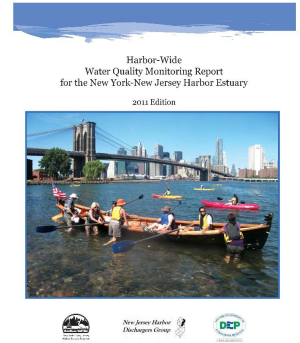
Clean-up in Jamaica Bay (Don Riepe)

Visit or volunteer at events near you:

- [Shoreline clean-up at Brooklyn Bridge Park](#)
- [Nat'l. Estuary Day Festival at Alley Pond Environmental Center](#)
- [Astoria Park Shoreline Clean-up, Greenshores NYC](#)
- [Liberty State Park Clean up, Jersey City](#)
- [Volunteer monitoring and Seining in the Raritan & Sandy Hook with the Bayshore Regional Watershed Council](#)

HARBOR-WIDE WATER QUALITY REPORT IS OUT!

HEP's 2011 edition of the [Harbor-Wide Water Quality Report for the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary](#) is now available. This report combines data on bacteria and dissolved oxygen collected by the NYC Dept of Environmental Protection and the NJ Harbor Dischargers Group throughout the Estuary. The report focuses on 2007-2009 data, collected since the previous edition and takes a look at current conditions as well as long-term trends.



MOST NJ SHELLFISH BEDS REOPEN AFTER IRENE

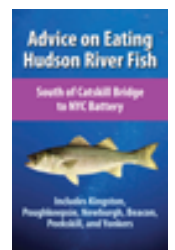
As a result of hurricane Irene's torrential downpours in our region, shellfish beds in New Jersey were closed for harvest due to a risk of [stormwater](#) and [combined sewer overflows](#) carrying harmful bacteria into our waterways.

After monitoring showed cleaner waters in most areas, most beds in the state had been reopened, the Department of Environmental Protection announced on September 9th, including those in Raritan Bay and the Shrewsbury and Navesink rivers, which opened the week of Labor Day. [Read more...](#)

CAN YOU EAT HUDSON RIVER FISH?

Check out the New Hudson River Fish Advisory Materials

The New York State Dept of Health has published a series of materials to communicate health advice on eating fish you catch from the Hudson River. To view the publications online or order hard copies [visit the website](#).



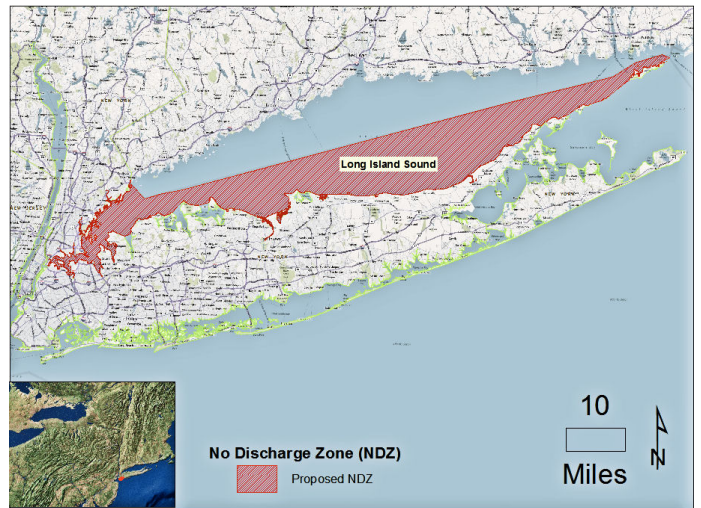
See other fish advisories for [New York](#) and [New Jersey](#).

BOAT SEWAGE DUMPING BANNED IN LONG ISLAND SOUND

NY Side of the Sound Classified as No Discharge Zone

EPA reviewed DEC's proposal to establish a no discharge zone for New York areas of the Long Island Sound and determined that there are adequate facilities in the Sound for boats to

pump out their sewage. The Connecticut side of the Sound and some parts in New York had previously received no-discharge zone status. Boaters must now dispose of their sewage at these specially-designated pump-out stations. Discharges of sewage from boats can contain harmful levels of pathogens and chemicals, which have a negative impact on water quality, pose a risk to people's health and impair marine life. [Read more...](#)



Other No Discharge Zones in the NY-NJ Harbor Estuary include:

- The NY-side of the Hudson River (153-mile stretch between Battery Park in Manhattan and the City of Troy Dam in Rensselaer County, NY)
- Navesink River (Monmouth County, NJ)
- Shrewsbury River (Monmouth County, NJ)

Find pumpout stations in [New Jersey](#), [New York City](#), and [New York State](#).

PASSAIC RIVER: SECOND COMPANY HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANUP

Superior Court Judge Sebastian P. Lombardi, presiding in Essex County, ruled that Tierra Solutions Inc. is liable under the New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act for past and future costs of cleaning up the contamination that has polluted a large stretch of the Lower Passaic. Tierra Solutions is the current owner of the site of the former Diamond Alkali/Diamond Shamrock plant on Newark's Lister Avenue.

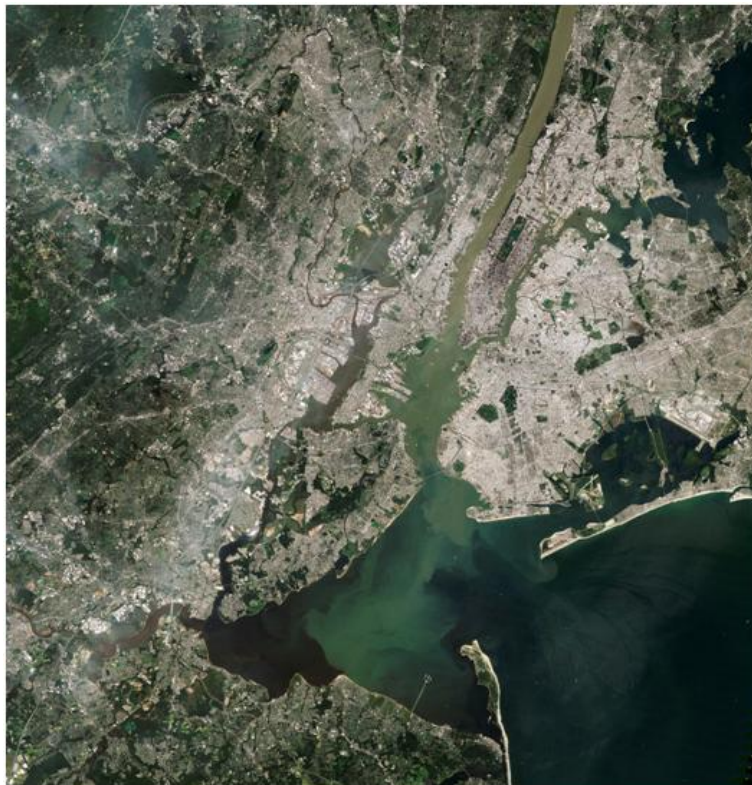


The recent ruling is the second in two months by Judge Lombardi that holds companies responsible for the cleanup. On July 19, Judge Lombardi ruled Occidental Chemical Corp. also is liable for cleanup costs under the Spill Act. [Read more...](#)

A RIVER RUNS BROWN

Large sediment loads after Irene

NASA Captured the below photos, post-Hurricane Irene, of the large amounts of sediment being washed down our rivers and tributaries. [Read more...](#)



Sediment shoots down the Hudson (NASA)



Sediment plume in Long Island Sound
(NASA)

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking for fun activities? Check out our [calendar of events!](#)

Save the dates:

Sept 24: [7th Annual Passaic River Paddle Relay](#)

Sept-October: [Lower East Side Ecology Center E-Waste Recycling events](#)

October 20: [Jamaica Bay Research Symposium](#)

Would you like to post your Estuary-related event in our calendar? [Please send us the details!](#)

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