

TIDES



How Do YOU Save the Bay?



Westerly and Newport Seal Cruises



Seal Watches

Nature Cruises

Charters

PLAN YOUR TRIP TODAY! Call us at 401-203-SEAL (7325) or visit savebay.org/seals



JOIN US FOR FAMILY FUN THIS WINTER!

Westerly Seal Watch & Nature Cruises

Join Save The Bay and the Stonington Historical Society for a 90-minute seal watch and nature cruise aboard one of our education vessels. We'll venture down the Pawcatuck River and into Little Narragansett Bay to discover the coastal history, winter wildlife, and environmental issues in the region. We supply binoculars and expert narration. Tours run Saturdays through December and during the month of April.

Departs: Viking Marina, 19 Margin Street, Westerly, RI 02891

Newport Seal Watch Cruise

A Newport tradition for the past 12 years! Join us as we motor through historic Newport Harbor and view seals on the rocks off Rose Island and the Newport Bridge. Choose from a one-hour seal watch or a two-hour seal watch and lighthouse tour. Tours run Thanksgiving weekend through April.

Departs: 142 Long Wharf Dock, Newport at the intersection of Long Wharf and Washington Streets. Parking available.

savebay.org/seals



TIDES MAGAZINE | Save The Bay | 100 Save The Bay Drive, Providence, RI 02905
401-272-3540 | savebay.org | tides@savebay.org

Mission: Save The Bay protects, restores and improves the ecological health of the Narragansett Bay region, including its watershed and adjacent coastal waters, through an ecosystem-based approach to environmental action; defends the right of the public to use and enjoy the Bay and its surrounding waters; and fosters an ethic of environmental stewardship among people who live in or visit the Narragansett Bay region.



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A sampling of everyday people who help Save The Bay in a variety of ways. Read their stories inside.

LEFT: A marine science program participant holding a squid. (See story, page 8.)



FROM THE DIRECTOR

It Takes a Village



The cleanup of Narragansett Bay is a national success story. Few estuaries in the United States have seen as much progress after 200 years of abuse as we've witnessed right here in our own backyard.

But this cleanup didn't happen by accident. We are the fortunate beneficiaries of the efforts of thousands of individuals who came before us. I recently met one of these individuals on Block Island, where I traveled to speak before a local environmental group. After my talk, an elderly gentleman shared a personal account of his efforts as a volunteer for Save The Bay in the 1970s. It was truly inspiring to hear him express his pride as a lifelong steward of Narragansett Bay.

From its earliest days, Save The Bay has been a grass-roots, community organization. Its members, volunteers, donors, supporters, and employees have come together to make change happen. This is no less true today than it was 44 years ago, when Save The Bay was founded.

From an environmental perspective, sadly, the threats and challenges the Bay faces today are more complex and daunting than ever. The natural beauty of our coastline faces relentless pressure from development. Many of our most iconic fisheries are in a state of collapse. Suburban sprawl and all that comes with it — polluted

runoff, trash, excessive nutrients, flooding — marches forward across our 1600-square-mile watershed. The accelerating pace of climate change brings erosion, habitat loss, and a real threat to public access to the shore.

One thing hasn't changed. Thousands of people each year commit themselves, each in their own way, to protecting Narragansett Bay. In this issue of *Tides* we celebrate the people who make a difference: scientists and students measuring dissolved oxygen; cleanup teams collecting trash along our beaches; residents monitoring seal and horseshoe crab populations; swimmers raising awareness. There is an incredible diversity of people who support Save The Bay and who share a common vision for a healthy Narragansett Bay. Many of their stories are told here. To these individuals and to all those who support our mission, we say, "Thank you!"

Jonathan Stone
Executive Director



Cleanups: So Much More Than a Pretty Beach

BY JULY LEWIS

"People can't appreciate clean water without a clean shoreline." So said then-Volunteer and Internship Coordinator Stan Dimock in 1999, and Save The Bay's Shoreline Cleanup Program was born. Fifteen years and thousands of pounds of debris later, Save The Bay has become a regional leader of volunteer shoreline cleanups.



ICC sponsor Washington Trust at the Napatree Point cleanup in Westerly.

We provide cleanup supplies and assistance to volunteers of all ages — from scouts to students to corporate groups — and we train volunteers to be Cleanup Leaders, supervising shoreline cleanups in their own neighborhoods. As of this year, we are the local partner for the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup Program, an annual effort to collect and catalogue shoreline trash around the planet.

Save The Bay's official "cleanup season" extends from mid-March through mid-November, and literally thousands of volunteers participate every year.

Cleanups are beneficial on a number of levels. They offer average citizens an opportunity to make a connection with Narragansett Bay and Save The Bay's staff and volunteers, often forging relationships that extend well beyond the time devoted to removing trash from the waterfront. Cleanups remove items from our shores that are hazardous to humans and wildlife: syringes, broken glass, fishing line, fish hooks, cigarette butts, and plastics of all kinds are harmful to the environment and present obvious hazards to those coming in contact with them.

CLEANUP DATA: July 2013 - June 2014

51 CLEANUPS
1,658 VOLUNTEERS
14,913 POUNDS OF TRASH



UNUSUAL ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Cable reel
- Christmas tree
- Hair extensions
- Large inflatable boat, over 200 lbs.
- Large metal camel sculpture
- Rubber eyeball
- Tiki torch
- Vinyl siding samples

Bill Dwyer: Cleanup Leader

"I led my first International Coastal Cleanup about 27 years ago. I was concerned about the condition that we were leaving our planet in for future generations, and I wanted to do my part to save the Earth a little piece at a time.

I found that Save The Bay was doing that in a variety of ways, including shore cleanups. When you consider that life evolved from the sea and that we are extremely dependent on it, that seemed like a really appropriate place to start.



The things we remove during a cleanup can have a terrible impact if left on the shore. Plastic bags floating around look like a turtle's favorite food: jellyfish. So they eat them, but the plastic blocks their stomachs and they starve to death. The #1 item picked up is cigarette butts, which are carcinogenic. The tide comes in, picks up the butts, and they pollute the water and aquatic life.

Do you want to help preserve the natural world? Then become active in an organization that protects it or maybe just help in a cleanup. We do make a difference. You too can help save the planet a little piece at a time."

International Coastal Cleanup

Save The Bay is proud to be the State Co-ordinator for the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) in Rhode Island. For almost 30 years, the ICC has mobilized volunteers all over the world to remove millions of pounds of trash from our oceans, beaches and waterways every fall. They not only pick up trash, they count every item as well.

The resulting item-by-item, location-by-location Ocean Trash Index published by the Ocean Conservancy provides the only global snapshot of the ocean trash littering the world's coasts and waterways. The ICC:

- Removes trash from beaches.
- Generates vital data in the fight against marine trash.



Public cleanup at Oakland Beach.

- Fosters a sense of local stewardship.
- Raises awareness of the issue and teaches that it is not okay to trash the Bay.
- Connects Rhode Island to a global community of volunteers who support clean oceans and waterways.

Many thanks to our ICC sponsors: Washington Trust, DuPont, Hemenway's Seafood Grill and Oyster Bar, Dominion, Stop & Shop, Denali Wakefield, Liberty Mutual, REI, CVS, and WPRI.

2014 Rhode Island ICC Results (as of 10/24/14):

- 2,010 volunteers
- 15,954 pounds of trash
- 56.5 miles of shoreline cleaned
- 75 beaches cleaned

Unusual Finds in 2014:

- 2 pogo sticks
- Sailboat rudder
- 80+ liquor nip bottles and an Alcoholics Anonymous booklet.
- A water bottle containing a rock painted with the face of Jesus.

TAKE ACTION

For details on Save The Bay's Shoreline Cleanup Program or to become a volunteer, visit savebay.org/volunteer.

Liz Minifie: Swimmer



"My connection to the Bay is its beauty, the salt water and how it feels on the skin, the sea life, and its ever-changing visual, auditory and tactile experience. I raised my four daughters at Third Beach, nursing them to sleep, putting them down on a towel so that I could have a swim. They all learned to swim there and LOVE the ocean. I am glad I gave them this important legacy. What I love most about Save The Bay is its commitment to preserving and protecting this natural resource and educating next generations to be knowledgeable and good stewards of the ocean and the Bay."

Liz Minifie will complete her 25th Save The Bay Swim in 2015.

38th Annual Save The Bay Swim

BY THE NUMBERS

REGISTERED

Swimmers: 596
(361 men, 235 women)

KAYAKERS: 190

19 TEAMS,
100+
new participants

424 swimmers in the water

SWIMMER AGES
15-83

DISTANCE
1.7
nautical
MILES

85 SWIMMERS HAVE PARTICIPATED MORE THAN 10 YEARS

Participants from **21** states

Most money raised by an individual
\$9,550.00

TOTAL MONEY RAISED
\$355,000

Infographic: DonnaDeForbesCreates.com

SAVE THE BAY®

NARRAGANSETT BAY

Artists For The Bay Show & Sale



Opening Reception
Thursday, December 4, 2014
6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



BOTTLES
fine wine | cocktails | craft beer

Tickets \$30

Visit savebay.org/art to purchase tickets



Heidi Gauch: Teacher

"I have done many programs with Save The Bay, and they were all excellent. This past year I took my 6th grade students [from Gaudet Middle School, Middletown] on a marine cruise on Save The Bay's educational vessel. It was an extraordinary experience for the teachers and students. The Save The Bay staff is always excellent. They worked with us to ensure the program fit our needs. They even brought the boat down to Newport for us to access it more easily. They are knowledgeable and engaging with the students.



My students were captivated during the entire trip. For some of them, it was their first time on a boat — and they live on an island! We did a couple of activities, but the students' favorite was trawling for organisms from the Bay. For my students to see the animals in the Bay up close and be able to touch them was an experience that they will never forget. It is certainly not something that can be replicated in the classroom.

All of my experiences with Save The Bay have been incredible. I feel my students and I are extremely lucky to have such a wonderful resource to work with. They have helped me bring science and our Bay alive to my students, and I can't wait to continue working with them in the future."

A Look Beneath the Surface

For over 30 years, Save The Bay has invested in partnerships with schools and school districts throughout the watershed to offer experiential, hands-on marine science education. Our education programs, collectively referred to as *Explore The Bay*, served more than 17,000 students in 2013 with standards-based programs that emphasize the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and math). The skills and knowledge students gain through *Explore The Bay* help them to become better students, inspire their interest in the sciences, and support them in becoming environmentally aware citizens.



We have a long history of working very closely with teachers and districts to tailor our programming to their curriculum needs. Through our hands-on, experiential design we bring classroom concepts to life in the field. Our education resources include two U.S. Coast Guard certified education vessels, our Exploration Center and Aquarium in Newport, and our Bay Center in Providence. We also meet teachers along the shorelines or in their classrooms. We look to today's youth as tomorrow's stewards of Narragansett Bay, and we are committed to investing in them to help us Save The Bay!

Trawl Observations

Aboard Save The Bay's vessels *Alletta Morris* and *Elizabeth Morris*, students in our Marine Science Education Programs and camps traveled and trawled throughout Narragansett Bay to areas including the Providence River, Mt. Hope Bay, Ohio ledge, and Bear Point (found on the northeast side of Prudence Island), Wickford Harbor and Mackerel Cove in Jamestown. All of our trawls were conducted in water 50 feet deep or shallower.

TRAWL FINDINGS 2014

Abundant Species	Secondary Species	Rare Species	Abundant But Few Spotted
Winter flounder	Horseshoe crabs	Kingfish	Sea star
Summer flounder	Tautog	Lizard fish	
Scup	Cunner		
Squid	Sea bass		
Moon snails	Windowpane flounder		
Spider crab	Hermit crab		
Peanut bunker	Green crab		
Blue crab	Slipper shells		
Mantis shrimp	Whelk		
Silverside minnows	Moonfish		
Comb jellies	Oyster toadfish		



Dr. Chris Deacutis: A Sleep-Deprived Steward of Bay Health

BY TOM KUTCHER

Every summer, Rhode Island's Dissolved Oxygen Strike Force conducts monthly water quality surveys to monitor oxygen levels in Upper Narragansett Bay. Self-named the "Insomniacs" for their past practice of conducting nighttime surveys, this group of dedicated scientists (geo.brown.edu/georesearch/insomniacs) hails from Brown

"My greatest surprise was the number of local scientists willing to join me in all-night surveys with absolutely no funding involved."

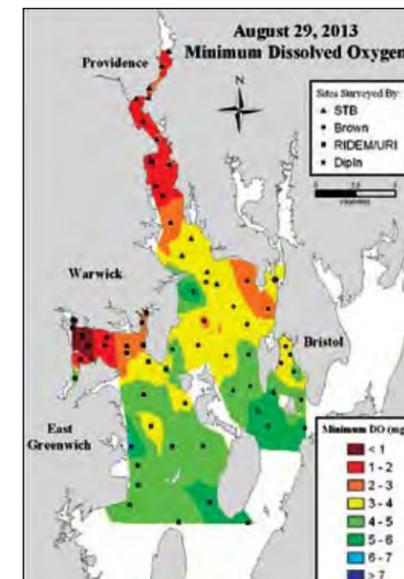
University, RI Department of Environmental Management (DEM), URI Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO), and Save The Bay. The Insomniacs were conceived and founded by DEM environmental scientist Dr. Chris Deacutis in 1999 to address his growing concern about oxygen levels in the Bay, following years of otherwise unexplained fish kills.

"I began seeing blue crabs and fish trying to get out of oxygen-deprived waters in the Kickemuit River and western Greenwich Bay. I decided to organize a group of local scientists into a volunteer 'strike force' to learn more about where these 'hypoxic' waters were in the Bay. My greatest surprise was the number of local scientists willing to join me in all-night surveys with absolutely no funding involved."

Just as for land animals in air, oxygen in the water is critical for sea animals to survive. Oxygen concentrations below 2.9 milligrams per liter (termed "hypoxic") are considered acutely dangerous to sea life, including finfish and shellfish. While plentiful oxygen is found in most surface water, nutrient pollution from our own waste products, pet waste, and lawn fertilizers can cause algae blooms that drain oxygen from the water as the algae decompose. Low oxygen events, characterized by dangerously-low oxygen



ABOVE: Chris Deacutis prepares monitoring equipment for dissolved oxygen survey. BELOW: Data depicting dissolved oxygen distributions in upper Narragansett Bay. Graphic courtesy of www.geo.brown.edu.



levels persisting across a substantial volume of water for a significant time, pose a direct threat to sea life.

In a 2003 state report, Chris documented and analyzed a massive fish kill event in Greenwich Bay that occurred in August, 2003. That report, along with Chris' tireless work demonstrating the effects of nutrients on the Bay ecosystem, was instrumental in influencing management actions that have greatly improved the health of the Bay, including several multimillion-dollar municipal wastewater treatment facility upgrades. Chris is currently our state's fish kill response coordinator.

Now led by Drs. David Murray and Warren Prell of Brown University, the Insomniacs continue Chris' important work on early-morning neap tides throughout the summer.

Winter Home for Seals

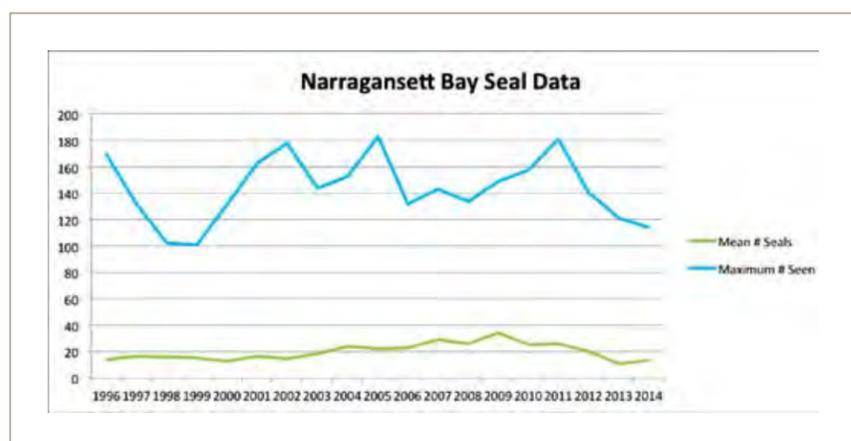
BY WENLEY FERGUSON,
ROB HUDSON AND
JULY LEWIS



One of the most charismatic residents of Narragansett Bay is the harbor seal. Save The Bay takes hundreds of people on seal tours for a chance to see these animals hauled out on the rocks near Rose Island. It's hard to believe that these familiar creatures once nearly disappeared from Rhode Island waters. The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 was instrumental in the seals' recovery. Now healthy and thriving, the seal population in Narragansett Bay is monitored by a crew of dedicated Save The Bay volunteers.

before heading north to the Gulf of Maine to have their young. Their numbers peak in late February through March when it is possible to see many seals hauled out or in the water at sites throughout the Bay.

In addition to these regular observations, Save The Bay partners with the Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve and the Environmental Protection Agency's Atlantic Ecology Division to conduct an annual Bay-wide seal count. On a single day, the usual haul-out sites are observed from the land, while agency staff members on



ABOVE: All seal monitoring sites/observers' data. Mean number of seals observed for the season and maximum number of seals observed for the season. LEFT: Two harbor seals haul out on a rock on the Pawcatuck River.

Seal monitoring volunteers commit to observing a known haul-out site on specific days when the tides are favorable, usually about twice a month. They record the number and type of seals and the weather conditions. Their observations help us to better understand the behavior of these animals and their population levels.

When Save The Bay began monitoring harbor seals in Narragansett Bay in the early 1990s, seals were thought to frequent the Bay only during the winter months. Through thousands of observations by volunteers at haul-out sites, we have learned that the seals spend up to nine months in the Bay. The seals usually arrive sometime in September and stay through the fall, winter, and spring until early May

boats count seals at sites only visible from the water. The highest number of seals observed was 569 at 17 haul-outs in March of 2011. Warm temperatures, light winds and a low tide falling in the middle of the day provided the seals ideal conditions to rest on rocks in every corner of the Bay. Each year the number fluctuates dependent upon the weather and wind conditions.

If you know a site where seals haul out or would like to monitor a site, please contact July Lewis at jlewis@savebay.org. We are hoping to include more sites for the 2015 season (including coastal ponds and barrier beaches). Also, please join us for one of our seasonal Seal Watch Cruises in Newport or Westerly: savebay.org/seals



Richard and Susan Graefe: Rome Point Seal Monitors

For the 20 years that they have lived overlooking Rome Point in North Kingstown, Richard and Susan Graefe have been monitoring harbor seals. As members of Save The Bay, they signed up to help monitor Narragansett Bay's harbor seal population, and they haven't stopped since. While many of our volunteers have to brave winter temperatures during our seal counts, the Graefes can observe the seals at Rome Point in the warmth of their home through a spotting scope.

According to Richard, "Seal monitoring has been rewarding and eye-opening, as my wife and I have relished this window into nature. We can see the haul-out rocks off Rome Point and Fox Island from our home, where a birding scope is a permanent fixture in our living room. There have been notable highlights in our long adventure with the seals, such as our highest count of 169 one day, and the very cold winter when the seals were hauling out on the ice. During that cold snap, a coyote also crossed the ice to Rome Point early one morning. I felt like we were in an arctic wilderness! We've also watched the behavior of a Great Blue Heron that periodically roosts overnight with the seals on the offshore rocks for safety from predators. We are happy to contribute to tracking the seal population in the Bay, and we enjoy the daily monitoring as well as the occasional surprises!"

SAVE THE DATE



ARTISTS FOR THE BAY SHOW & SALE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2015

TASTE OF THE BAY &
ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2015



Salt Marsh Interns “Diggin” It

BY MARCI COLE EKBERG

Salt marshes are one of the most biologically productive habitats on Earth. They provide crucial nursery habitat for finfish and shellfish as well as breeding and foraging habitat for migratory birds.

But many marshes in Narragansett Bay are approaching a tipping point. Extensive die-off of vegetation and marsh loss is being documented, with more predicted. Sea level rise leaves water trapped on the marsh, causing vegetation to die off. Without plants to trap sediment and increase marsh surface, the marsh subsides to an elevation that does not support vegetation and converts to open water. High temperatures and salt in the impounded water areas during droughts can also cause die-off.

Enhancing the resiliency of the region's marshes will help preserve their ecological value, protect shorelines from storms and floods, filter pollutants and sequester carbon.

A number of salt marshes around Rhode Island are now being targeted for restoration and adaptive management,

based on a rapid salt marsh assessment by Save The Bay. Planning, monitoring, and even adaptation have begun at these sites, thanks to many dedicated interns and volunteers.

Over the past decade, we have been fortunate to have outstanding Habitat Res-



ABOVE: Grace DeCost, Amanda Adams and Emma Rooks participate in a dig day at RISD Beach marsh. LEFT: Intern Andrew Neil helps Restoration Ecologist Wenley Ferguson assess the stability of the marsh on the Narrow River.

toration interns. Primarily college students and recent graduates, they dedicate their free time to help monitor and restore Narragansett Bay's salt marshes. The interns are trained in monitoring techniques and then work independently to get the job done. They work alongside volunteers on “dig days” to restore proper tidal hydrology (how water moves in and out of a marsh) by hand-digging shallow creeks. The work is often muddy and hot, but our crew of interns is always ready to pitch in and experience conservation and restoration in action.

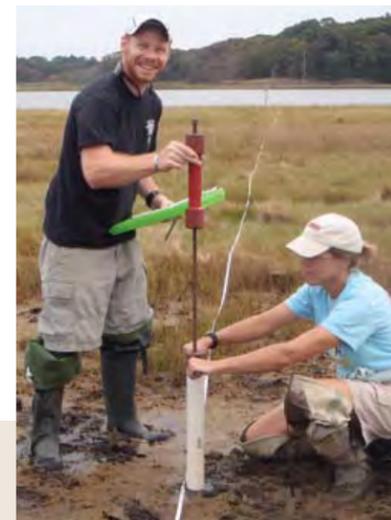
relationships with, but also because it helps me feel a connection to my local environment.”

Amanda Adams:

“As a lifetime resident of Rhode Island, Save The Bay has always held an important presence in my life. I have always been passionate about environmental restoration, so I was very excited and grateful to have the opportunity to intern with Save The Bay!”

Andrew Neil:

“My experience as a habitat restoration intern during the summer of 2008 motivated me to follow my passion for natural resource management. I obtained my Masters in Environmental Science and Management at URI, and I am now working for the Environmental Data Center at URI on a salt marsh elevation project for the Northeast Coastal and Barrier Network of the National Park Service. I continue to volunteer with Save The Bay every chance I get, not only because of the amazing people that I have formed



Emma Rooks:

“Having grown up right on the Bay in Rhode Island, I have always had a close connection with Narragansett Bay and the coastal habitats. My love of the sea and coast led me to pursue a degree in Biology and a future in Marine Biology and Conservation. Through my habitat restoration internship, I felt I was making a difference improving the health of the Bay.”

Testing the Waters in Little Narragansett Bay

Water quality testing¹ in the lower Pawcatuck River and Little Narragansett Bay is a cornerstone of Save The Bay's advocacy. The data allows us to assess how our waters respond to changing climate conditions, including more intense rainstorms and droughts, rising air and water temperatures, and drought conditions. Data is used to rally greater cooperation and action across town and state boundaries, and advocate for stronger enforcement of environmental laws.

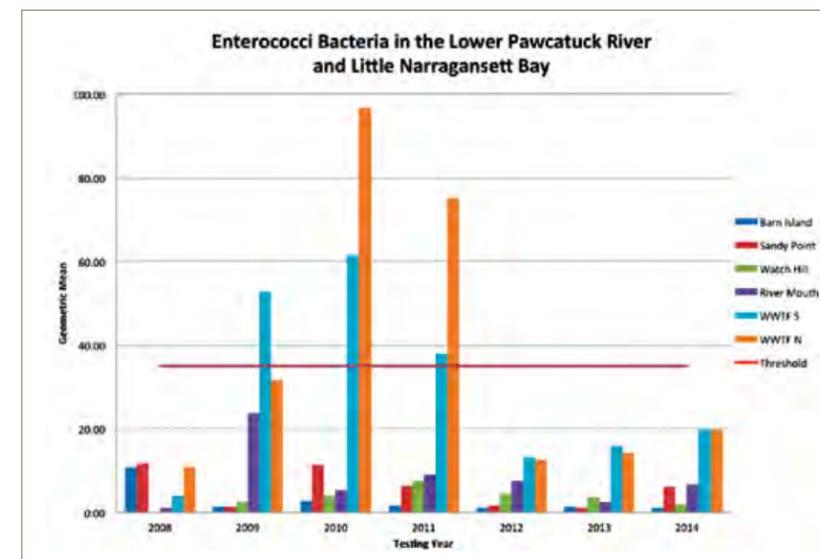


We test for bacterial pollution, which comes from warm-blooded animals (including humans) and threatens safe swimming and shellfishing. It can make us sick. Sources range from failing septic systems, illegal sewage discharges, pet waste, waterfowl (specifically swans and Canada geese), and stormwater runoff. Higher bacteria levels usually correlate to wet weather, but they were occasionally high even during the dry summer of 2014.

We can each do our part to prevent bacteria from polluting waters where we swim, fish, and play. Pick up after your pet. Don't feed the birds, especially swans, ducks, or geese. Make sure your septic system is working properly — get it regularly inspected and pumped out.

Since 2012, Fran Pijar from Mystic, Connecticut has been a constant aboard the South County Coastkeeper vessel, testing the waters of the Pawcatuck River estuary and Little Narragansett Bay and helping to analyze the data.

¹ Water quality testing processed by URI's Watershed Watch.



Fran Pijar

“I first became aware of the Save The Bay organization when my niece participated in the 2010 Save The Bay Swim.

In 2011, I participated in a cleanup of the Pawcatuck River cosponsored by CUSH (Clean Up Sound and Harbors) and Save The Bay. As a recent retiree, I had more time to volunteer and felt that Save The Bay provided a vehicle for me to give back to the community. Over the past four years, I have participated in shoreline cleanup events, species collections for the Exploration Center in Newport, salt pond scallop restoration, and water quality monitoring on Little Narragansett Bay.

Save The Bay has provided me with the opportunity to meet other environmentally conscious individuals, learn new skills, and share my knowledge with other volunteers and interns.”





Our Exploration Center & Aquarium is the perfect family-friendly destination. Get face-to-fin with creatures from Narragansett Bay: lobsters, spider crabs, moon jellies, and an assortment of funky-looking sea life, all native to our area.

Located in the Rotunda at Easton's Beach
175 Memorial Boulevard
Newport, RI 02840
401-324-6020

Hours:
October through Memorial Day: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Public School Vacation Weeks - Daily 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Members always
get free admission!



Free admission

Located in downtown Westerly, the South Coast Center offers visitors the opportunity to learn about the amazing marine and freshwater species that call Rhode Island waters their home. It features a large touch tank, several aquaria, a children's story area, and a craft area. Come by to check out the sea life, learn about the water quality in Little Narragansett Bay and the Pawcatuck River, or stay for a Riverside Story Hour.



8 Broad Street • Westerly, RI 02891 • 401-315-2709

Donor Testimonials

Anna Browder

"I'm a retired elementary school science teacher. I studied the Seekonk River with classes preparatory to taking a Bay cruise. It's a tidal river with grass shrimp, horse mussels, barnacles, horseshoe crabs, and tiny crabs under the rocks at low tide. My goal was to lead my students to care about all these charming organisms so they would want to protect their habitat. I also maintained a salt water aquarium in my classroom filled with water and organisms from Colt State Park, in which a tube worm once appeared, having developed from a larva in the water, for sure.



To help keep the Bay clean, I once posted a sign on my sidewalk grass strip saying: "Clean up after your dog, drains to the Bay," which drew praise from an out-of-state visitor who worked as an environmentalist in the state of Washington.

Save The Bay exemplifies my approach to environmental science education, and I've been a member for more years than I can recall. Teaching children to love and understand our precious Bay is the way to preserve it. And those children who are least able to go to its shore are the ones we need to make the most effort to educate."

Mary K. Talbot

"My parents taught me that we have a moral obligation to take care of the environment, and I'm trying to pass that same belief system on to my children. As a family, we try to reduce our usage while recycling, composting, and donating what we don't use. Most importantly, we read about science to understand the delicate

balance of nature and spend time exploring Narragansett Bay (on and near the water) to appreciate what a wonderful gift it is to live here in Rhode Island.

It's my wish for my children to fully appreciate and respect what they have, to become ambassadors for this vital resource and to advocate for its continued protection throughout their lifetimes. I'm trying to save the Bay by influencing the behaviors of the next generation, one child at a time, through education and by being a purposeful role model."

Edgar Mercado

"I first signed up for the annual Save the Bay Swim 36 years ago for the personal challenge it presented. I now participate because I believe in their mission to protect, restore, and improve the ecological health of the Narragansett Bay region. It's easy to forget how fortunate we are to live in RI and have water surround us and available to use. I've always encouraged my children, and now grandchildren, to leave the beaches cleaner than when they arrived."



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Edgar Mercado; Anna Browder; and Mary K. Talbot with her two sons.

Volunteer Opportunities

We can work together to save the Bay! There are volunteer opportunities year-round all over the state. Visit savebay.org/volunteer for more information or to sign up for any of the options listed below. Volunteer and Internship Manager, July Lewis, will answer all of your questions. Contact her at volunteer@savebay.org or 401-272-3540 x130.

- Teach visitors about marine life as a docent at the Exploration Center & Aquarium in Newport. Volunteers 16+ are eligible — a great opportunity for high school students!
- Welcome visitors and take care of the aquarium tanks at the South Coast Center in Westerly. Be a part of our presence on the South Shore!
- Spend a day on the beach by joining a shoreline cleanup. Perfect for families.
- Donate your talents as a photographer at Save The Bay events.

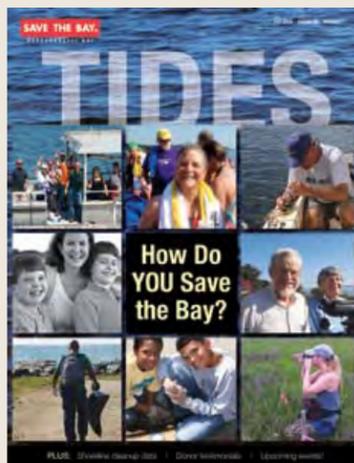


Students participate in a storm drain marking project.

- Prevent pollution by marking storm drains with "Don't Dump - Drains To Bay" signs.
- Sign up to help in the parking lot at the CVS Caremark Charity Golf Classic, June 28-30. The Classic has raised millions of dollars for local non-profits, including Save The Bay.
- Help out in the office with regular mailings or data entry.
- Spread the word about seal tours and education activities by distributing brochures to businesses in your neighborhood.
- Get in-depth experience with a Save The Bay internship.

TAKE ACTION Get volunteer opportunities sent right to your inbox! Sign up at savebay.org/volunteer_newsletter.

How Do YOU Save the Bay?



Save The Bay has dedicated this issue of TIDES magazine to highlight how our many volunteers, donors, staff, partners, and others support the mission of Save The Bay — "To protect and improve Narragansett Bay!"

Please be on the lookout for our Fall Appeal which helps raise awareness and much needed funding for our annual fund. Your dollars directly help our organization sustain and increase our programs and services to the community.

For more information on how you can lend your time, talent, and treasure to support the mission of Save The Bay, please call 401-272-3540.

www.savebay.org/donate



The Seagrass Society: Leave a Lasting Legacy

Save The Bay was founded in 1970 by people who sought to protect Narragansett Bay. Forty-four years later, it is people, our loyal members, donors, and volunteers who continue to support the important work of protecting our Bay. As we approach our 50th

Stan Dimock, Seagrass Society Member, environmentalist, and long-time supporter of Save The Bay, decided to include Save The Bay in his estate planning. Here's why:

"I believe in Save The Bay's mission 100%. I live the mission every day by volunteering



anniversary in 2020, we ask you to consider the impact of Save The Bay today, and in the next 50 years.

In 2004, the Seagrass Society was established to provide a means of lasting support, so that individuals can designate a gift that would continue into perpetuity. Gifts through bequests and memorials, as well as donations of assets, can help support our mission both today and for generations to come.

There are many ways that you can include Save The Bay in your estate planning:

- Bequests
- Life insurance beneficiaries
- Annuities
- Designated gifts

Working in conjunction with the Rhode Island Foundation and your estate planning team, the development staff at Save The Bay is happy to assist you and answer any questions about how you can have a lasting impact on the organization.

"Leaving a lasting legacy for future generations is the ultimate selfless gift."

at the Bay Center and conducting cleanups throughout the year.

I take pride in knowing my gift to Save The Bay through the Seagrass Society will allow me to continue to make a difference for Narragansett Bay long after I'm gone.

Leaving a lasting legacy for future generations is the ultimate selfless gift; I encourage others who believe in Save The Bay's mission to do the same."

For information on the Seagrass Society and other ways to support Save The Bay, contact Frank Maher at 401-272-3540 x126 or fmaher@savebay.org. Learn more online at savebay.org/plannedgiving



Save The Bay Seagrass Society member, Stan Dimock.

Editorial inquiries to:
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SHOP Save The Bay

**New Winter Merchandise Arriving Soon at Our Three Locations!**

The iconic Save The Bay logo on our apparel is well known by most Rhode Islanders. Our screen-printed T-shirts, hoodies, and logo-embroidered caps are a familiar sight throughout the Narragansett Bay watershed and beyond. Merchandise is available at all three of our locations listed below. Shop in person or order securely online at savebay.org/shop.

Providence

Save The Bay Center
100 Save The Bay Drive
Providence, RI 02905
401-272-3540

Newport

Exploration Center
& Aquarium
Easton's Beach Rotunda
175 Memorial Boulevard
Newport, RI 02840
401-324-6020

Westerly

South Coast Center
8 Broad Street
Westerly, RI 02891
401-315-2709

**SAVE MONEY**

Become a member and receive 10% off all merchandise.
Call Stan at 401-272-3540 x115

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Citizens Bank
Save The Bay
Swim: July 2015**

The Swim is Save The Bay's largest annual fundraiser where nearly 500 swimmers and 200 kayakers trek 1.7 nautical miles across the Bay to raise money and experience the iconic, open water swim from Newport to Jamestown.

**Taste of The Bay:
June 2015**

Taste of The Bay and Annual Meeting is a celebration of the flavors, sights and sounds of Narragansett Bay, featuring local restaurants, bakeries, breweries and wineries with a scenic Bay backdrop.

**International
Coastal Cleanup:
September 2015**

ICC is a global event in which volunteers all over the world remove trash from the shores and document what they find to raise awareness about marine debris and reduce the problem at the source.

**Partnership
Opportunities:
Year-Round**

Save The Bay will custom-fit a partnership for your company, whether it's adopting a Green Team or supporting other community events.

If you are interested in sponsorship, please email events@savebay.org or call 401-272-3540.

Your sponsorship supports Save The Bay's Mission to protect and improve our beloved Narragansett Bay. Sponsorships are available at all levels and can be custom-fit to support individual corporate needs.

Some Sponsorship Benefits include (depending on level):

- Exposure to social media (8,000+ Facebook and 2,000 Twitter followers).
- Logo recognition in monthly e-news (to over 15,000).
- Corporate logo displayed on website with reciprocal link.
- Logo and business recognition in the weekly swimmer and kayaker e-newsletter (Swim event).
- Sponsorship recognition on event T-shirt (premium logo placement).
- Corporate logo placement on event collateral materials and signage.
- Corporate banner displayed at events.
- Corporate logo placement in Save The Bay's Tides, mailed to over 12,000 households.
- Volunteer opportunities

SAVE THE BAY
NARRAGANSETT BAY

Protecting and Improving Narragansett Bay

For more information on events and sponsorships, please call 401-272-3540 or visit SAVEBAY.ORG



SUPPORT Save The Bay



YOUR MEMBERSHIP

- Works toward clean, accessible waters and beaches
- Invests in educating future generations
- Makes a difference in **your** community
- Ensures the health of Narragansett Bay

YOU CAN HELP SAVE NARRAGANSETT BAY! AS A MEMBER,

- **You** will support marine science education programs for more than 17,000 students and teachers.
- **You** will protect and restore over 124,000 acres of wetlands in Rhode Island.
- **You** will ensure the cleanup efforts of 30,000 pounds of trash from our coastline annually.

***BRAND NEW MEMBER BENEFITS** include discounts at: Rock Spot Climbing, The Kayak Centre of Rhode Island, Green River Silver, Island Outfitters, Hemenway's Restaurant, and local nurseries.

JOIN TODAY! savebay.org/membership