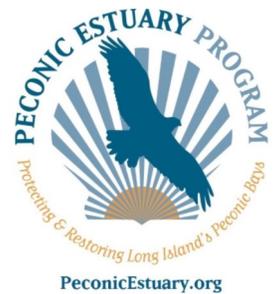


CAC AMBASSADOR TALKING POINTS



September– November 2016

CAC Ambassador Program

The purpose of the Citizen's Advisory Committee Ambassador Program is to provide members information about the Peconic Estuary Program, upcoming meetings and scheduled events to share with your community. Together we can spread the message of healthy ecosystems, clean water and ways in which people can participate to reach this common goal.

National Estuaries Week

National Estuaries Week will be observed from September 17th-24th to celebrate the many ways we benefit from a healthy, thriving coastal ecosystem. People can participate in the following ways:

- **Attend the Peconic Estuary Program's Nature Hike on Saturday September 17th at 10am in East Hampton on Northwest Road, parking is just south of Alewife Brook Road. More details on our Facebook page.**
- Attend an event hosted by a local estuary program. More information can be found at estuaries.org/national-estuaries-week. Use #EstuaryGo on Social Media.
- Participate in PEP's week long photo contest using #PeconicEstuariesWeek on Facebook, Instagram or send a photo via e-mail to peptalk@peconicestuary.org. Amateur photographers can submit photos of the Peconic Estuary vistas, wildlife or activities from September 17th-24th.
- Use #EstuariesWeek and #EstuaryLove for all your social media posts on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook all week long.

The PEP on Cablevision Public Access

The Peconic Estuary Program recently received a time slot on Monday's at 7:30pm for half hour segments from October 2016– October 2017 on Cablevision Riverhead Channel 20. We will be broadcasting documents, short videos, PSAs, CAC meetings and our conferences.

Protecting and Restoring Long Island's Peconic Bays.

CCMP Update Participation

This year the Peconic Estuary Program is embarking on a revision of the Peconic Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). The Peconic Estuary is a changing system and the issues that plague it have evolved over the past decade. It's been 15 years since the Peconic Estuary Program first released our plan to conserve and restore the Peconic Estuary. Much has changed since the first plan was written and it is your turn to be a part of molding the new CCMP. Improving water quality in the Peconic Estuary is a complex issue and requires the cooperation and coordination of multiple groups. Help us refocus our efforts on the latest threats to the waterbodies of the Peconic by filling out a survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/P7HCVXB

Inform People About the Local Fertilizer Law

Local Law 41-2007 prohibits lawn fertilizer application between November 1st through April 1st. During this time period, lawn grass doesn't grow and there-ore fertilizers are rendered useless. The purpose of this law is to reduce the amount of nitrogen released into our groundwater and surface water. Retailers are required to post signs near fertilizer displays notifying customers of the date restrictions. Violators, whether it be home-owners, landscapers or other parties risk fines of \$1,000.

Clean Sweep Program and S.T.O.P.

CleanSweepNY is a NYSDEC environmental benefit project that provides for the environmentally safe and economic collection and disposal of unwanted or unusable pesticides, golf course chemicals, and mercury-containing devices. S.T.O.P. (Stop Throwing Out Pollutants) is a program where you can drop off your household hazardous materials for proper disposal instead of throwing them away. A list of accepted items for drop-off can be found at toh.li/sanitation-depa.../stop-throwing-out-pollutants.

A Day in the Life of the Peconic Estuary

This program was established to help students develop an appreciation for and knowledge of Long Island's River and estuary ecosystems, to collect useful scientific data in regard to the status of associated surface waters and to allow students to become stewards of water quality and natural resources. Students will, for the third year, explore various sites within the Peconic Estuary during this one day event. All data collected that day is available to the public, as well as other information about the program, at this website: www.portaltodiscovery.org/aday/

Big Duck Event November 5th

Learn about the benefits of native plantings, raingardens and rain barrels at the PEP native plant garden. Get your hands dirty and help mulch, weed and collect water from the rain barrel and earn how your yard can be eco-friendly. Please bring gardening gloves and garden tools.

Share Peconic Estuary Posts on Facebook

This is an easy way to help PEP spread the word about what is happening in our estuary. When you share or like our Facebook posts we reach and educate more people.

About the Peconic Estuary Program

The Peconic Estuary Program (PEP) is one of 28 National Estuary Programs around the country under section 320 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Clean Water Act. The program is responsible for creating a management plan to protect the estuary. The PEP was established November 1992 after citizen groups formed in response to the Brown Tide algal bloom events in the mid 1980's and early 1990's. At that time, it became the 20th National Estuary Program in the country.

The PEP is comprised of all stakeholders within the estuary. Committee members from each stakeholder group meet quarterly to discuss concerns and solutions with the PEP program staff: "CAC" Citizen's Advisory Committee- citizens, business leaders "TAC" Technical Advisory Committee- scientists, environmental groups "MC" Management Committee- program staff, USEPA, NYSDEC, Suffolk County, local townships and east end incorporated villages. The PEP program office is located in Yaphank at the Suffolk County Dept. of Health Services, Office of Ecology. Public outreach and education is contracted annually, currently to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County.

PEP Accomplishments

- Development of Critical Lands Protection Strategy and implementation of Community Preservation Fund to protect land from development
- Riverhead Sewage Treatment Plant effluent to irrigate Indian Island Golf Course
- Enactment of the Suffolk County Fertilizer Reduction Law (Local law 41-2007)
- Development and implementation of sub-watershed specific management plans
- Continuous long-term monitoring of water quality and sea grass distribution
- Peconic River Rock ramp passage in Grangebelle Park, Riverhead and installation of eel and fish passage Edwards Avenue, Calverton
- Implementation of Peconic Estuary nitrogen and pathogen pollution reduction plans and upgrades of Sewage Treatment Plants
- Support bay scallop restoration efforts

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