A Publication of the

# Natural Resources Protective Association

*Coalition Against Water Disposal of Contaminated Sediments*
*Post Office Box 050328 • Staten Island, NY 10305*

Established in 1977 | In Memory of Edward "Kerry" Sullivan | SPRING 2020

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## EAST SHORE SEAWALL HIKE

*By Jim Scarcella*

In late January, NRPA and Protectors of Pine Oak Woods sponsored an East Shore (Staten Island) Seawall Hike, from Oakwood Beach to Miller Field. The walkers were not deterred by some threatening weather, including a serious north wind and occasional showers. We met on Mill Road and Fox Beach Avenue near Dugale Street and Riga Avenue (almost directly across from the Michael Ollis VFW Post). Prior to the walk, I saw a homeless encampment on Riga Avenue near Dugale, complete with traffic cones and "Do Not Enter" signage. Before the hike, the participants observed a moment of silence for the people who perished when Hurricane Sandy hit on October 29, 2012.

We gathered at the bottom of the Tarlton Avenue cul de sac and Chuck Perry showed us the Army Corps of Engineers "Constructed Seawall" sectional sketch showing huge boulders and sheeted, interlocking steel. Also, there was a plan view of the seven drainage areas, from the Oakwood Beach Water Treatment Control Plant (WTCP) up to Fort Wadsworth. The WTCP is the single most important piece of infrastructure on the east shore and will have a seawall, levee and gates.

There were Herring Gulls and a roaring sea when we jumped up onto the berm to walk north up to Kissam Avenue. This area was hit hard by Sandy, and the Nor'easter of 1992.

The mostly phragmites wetland now has a 200' wide "firebreak" where the phragmite is cut, to hopefully prevent fire from spreading. We continued to the south portion of Cedar Grove Beach, where a previous reinforced plastic seawall was partially burned by vandals around year 2000, the fire was visible for miles.

There are fire hydrants nearby, hopefully they are now operational.

Cedar Grove was once home to a beach cabin colony, about 80 rental bungalows, paved roads, a community hall for parties and a flagpole. The road provided shelter from the north wind and we saw mammal burrows at the base of the berm. We saw the "pods" for administrative services and bathrooms at Cedar Grove Beach, and then walked up to Ebbits Street, New Dorp Beach.

This area is undergoing a street widening, water main and sewer upgrade. The Manresa Council building was once a general store, serving generations of beach families. New Dorp Beach also had tragedy during Hurricane Sandy.

Our Lady of Lourdes church is still standing, and at one time had a hospital closer to the beach, complete with a helicopter landing pad. We continued walking north to Kivlehan Park, and the park was unoccupied due to inclement weather.

At New Dorp Lane, we observed the staging area for the water main project (part of which was an artificial turf soccer field) and saw the old aircraft hangers of Miller Field. It's not clear if the hangers will survive construction of the 17 foot height, 22 foot wide seawall.

The temporary berm at New Dorp beach has been battered, but still provides a measure of protection for the homes 2000 feet away.

The walk back was relatively uneventful, the wind and showers were at our back. Returning to Tarlton, we performed a little

## In this Edition

clean up and vowed to work together to protect our shores, beach, and wetlands.

Special thanks to Chuck, the Abenante family, Howie, Karen, Tom, Mike and all those who joined us for the walk. The East Shore Seawall will physically change our beaches forever.

Please join NRPA and help us with the clean up here on March 28.

## NEW YORK GOING PLASTIC FREE

*By Chuck Perry*

New York going plastic free... HARDLY! New York is joining California and Hawaii with a statewide ban on plastic bags. The three states combined account for over 60 million Americans, roughly 18% of the United States.


It is estimated that New York uses 23 billion plastic bags every year with most of these plastic bags ending up in landfills and around the city and waterways. The plastic bag ban will not only reduce plastic bags in landfills and waterways, but it will also eliminate an estimated 12 million barrels of oil used to make plastic bags for New York.

Plastic bags never fully break down and often clog storm drains and screens in sewage treatment plants. Plastics bags that make their way to the ocean have been mistaken for Jelly Fish by sea turtles who eat them. They die of starvation. Studies on dead sea turtles have found that more than 50 % have plastic in their stomachs. Similarly, seabirds, fish and other marine animals mistake plastic bags for food or become entangled in plastic bags leading to exhaustion, starvation and eventual death.

This bill is not a cure all. It is only the start on the journey to reduce our use of plastics.

Plastic bags won't disappear entirely, just at the checkout counter. Customers can still put their green beans or bulk almonds in plastic bags, and meat and deli items can still be wrapped in plastic.

The 5-cent fee for paper bags is not a lot, but there is evidence across the country that the 5 cents over time will incentivize people to bring reusable bags. The use of paper bags is not a sustainable solution.

NYC Sanitation is giving out bags made with 90% recycled material. They fold up into a small pouch and have two strong handles. I have been using them for over a year with no visible sign of wear.

If we all do our part, we can begin to reduce the amount of plastic and other trash we produce.

## FIGHTING FOREIGN INVADERS

*By Tony Rose*

It wasn't too cold for a November day after Thanksgiving, but the brave band of warriors were layered and prepared for anything. Armed with sharp implements, they were ready to wage war against foreign foes who were seeking to displace the native population.

No, this wasn't some crazed political rally; these environmentalists were headed to Mariners Marsh Park to clear invasive plants that threatened to choke out less hardy plants that are native to the area. Jack, Adriano, Ken and Tony brought hedge clippers, loppers, camp saws and a cordless Sawzall to do battle. The best way to eliminate the plants is dig them out and Tony dug a few out with a six-foot, iron breaker bar, but had to take a break after the exhausting work.

Bill Morris, who organized the initiative, agreed that digging out the rootstock is the most effective approach, but cutting down the plants will buy him time.

"New growth will take two to three years before it can propagate, so we can limit the spread of the plants until we can do the definitive work," Bill, a one-man army has been advocating for Mariners Marsh for decades.

A former industrial area, Mariners Marsh has been vacant and locked up for years. A steel mill and then the Milliken ship-building concern occupied the site from the mid-nineteenth century until the period after World War I. The site fell into disuse and returned to nature through the years. The buildings have crumbled and nature has returned, low-lying areas have ponded as well as some of the old foundations. Corners of crumbled buildings peek through the woods.

The Parks Department acquired the property in 1997. It was an unimproved natural area. Bill and some friends improved paths that wound through the area, connecting open meadows and ponds. He got scout troops and some environmental groups to run wood chips to maintain the pathways. Some of the paths were there because the pipes that had supplied gas to the buildings had to be kept clear of bushes and saplings, so they remain open today. The Staten Island Sport Divers investigated some of the ponds years ago and

removed tires and bicycles.

Parks had planned to use some open space near Richmond Terrace for badly needed ball fields and to clean up the trails. Trial soil borings revealed (surprise, surprise) that much of the ground was contaminated by industrial wastes,

Waste means waits. With no money for soil remediation, the park has sat idle for almost 20 years. The remediation is now done and Parks is moving towards preparing the area for use. A planning organization hired by the city has begun a visioning process to begin organization of the improved Mariners Marsh Park. Which brings us back to the bushes. Nature is amazingly resilient and asks only to be left alone. Bit by bit, the invasive are cut back. The trees are thick and varied. They grow right up to, and in some cases, right into the ponds. Wildlife abounds. Years ago, before they were seen in Richmondtown, beavers crossed the Arthur Kill and took up residence here. Their presence was evidenced by the characteristic pencil point stumps of the trees they acquired to turn streams to ponds. Birds take advantage of any shrubs and berries

the local deer may have left them. A resident fox has been spotted along with rabbits.

Trees have risen tall and majestic. One was seen to be growing right through a discarded tire. Until we get around to cutting the tire, perhaps we'll plant some daffodils in it.

Parks Department bulldozers and dump trucks hauled gravel from one site to another. Hope filled the chill air.

All in all, despite one horrendous case of poison ivy, it was a positive, productive day.

## CREATURE FEATURE

*By Jim Scarcella*

This issue's creature feature is the Atlantic (Knobbed) Whelk, a large predatory snail (mollusk).

The Knobbed Whelk lives in water depths of anywhere from two meters to 48 feet. It eats oysters and clams, and can be up to 12 inches in length, and up to four inches across. The whelk is capable of propelling itself around and its scientific name is Busycon carica.

The whelk has 6 spirals and is dextral, meaning if you are looking at one, the opening (aperture) is on the right side. The opening can be closed by its operculum.

The whelk anchors its egg casing (also known as "Mermaids Necklace") in the substrate, so that it will not wash ashore. Each egg capsule contains approximately 90 eggs and there can be as many as 30 capsules. The eggs are preyed upon by horseshoe crabs and fish (primarily drums).

The egg cases can become dislodged during storms and the eggs dehydrate if left up on the beach.

## REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS: SAFETY FIRST!

*By Ida Sanoff*

Banning single use plastic bags is a good thing. We've all seen them sailing through the air on windy days. We've all seen tree limbs bedecked with shreds of variously colored plastic bags. And not a month goes by when we don't read about a whale or sea turtle that died because its stomach was filled with plastic.

And let's not forget about our winged friends. Last summer, as I was walking off the beach, I saw a bird trying to take flight with the handle of a plastic bag wrapped around its leg. I tried to catch it, but I couldn't. Two cops who were passing by tried to get it too, but they were also unsuccessful. Luckily for us – and the bird – a group of young boys came by and they successfully corralled the bird and unwrapped the bag from its leg. I took the bag with me and made sure that it was trashed where it would no longer be a danger to wildlife.

Of course, there have been various studies about both the environmental impacts of reusable and disposable bags. But not much has been said about health issues related to our reusable bags.

One that I found quite interesting was done in 2014 by Clemson University in South Carolina. You can find the study here: https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1006&context=cudp_environment
The study looked at shopping habits, the process of manufacturing paper and plastic bags, disposal issues and a whole bunch of other things. I never realized that the disposable vs. reusable issue was so complex. When we use bags made of recycled paper, who ever thought about the "de-inking process" that removed the ink from all of the paper that was recycled to make those bags? The study also looked at the use of fossil fuels to make the bags, chemical

(continued next page)

composition, etc. and came to the conclusion that durable, reusable bags were a better choice.

But then it went further. The study looked at whether or not reusable bags could transmit infectious microbes. And this is something that we haven't heard anything about. When you talk about disease transmission, inanimate objects are collectively called "fomites". The classic example of a fomite is the faucet on a sink. You turn on the faucet with your dirty hands, wash your hands well with soap and water, then put your clean hands back onto the faucet to turn it off. You have just re-contaminated your hands by touching the dirty faucet. In health care institutions, faucets have lever style handles that you can turn off with your wrist or elbow. Otherwise, a paper towel can be used to turn off the faucet. Another example of a fomite is the doorknob on public restrooms. How many times have you seen someone use the restroom and leave without washing their hands? Well, if they have some sort of stomach bug it's now on that handle and if you touch your food without washing your hands, you'll probably get sick too.

OK, so now comes the part that no one has talked about: Keeping your reusable bags CLEAN.

The Clemson study notes that in 2012, the U.S. Dept. of Health recommended frequent washing of reusable cloth bags. It referred to a study that was done by three independent labs in Toronto that found that practically no one ever washes their reusable cloth bags or cleans reusable plastic bags. It also quoted a study where a stomach bug that infected nine members of a Washington, DC soccer team was traced to a contaminated reusable bag.

So how can you be environmentally responsible and also maintain good health? The New York State Dept. of Health has published some guidelines, which you can find here: https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2827/
These are common sense approaches, such as placing raw poultry, fish and meat in a separate disposable bag and keeping produce separate.

Guidelines for the safe use of reusable bags are attached. Thanks for using them and thanks for keeping them clean!

## NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS: A SMART CHOICE BUT PLAY IT SAFE

- Reusable Grocery Bags: A Smart Choice But Play It Safe is also available as a PDF (PDF, 366KB)

Reusable grocery bags have become very popular as people seek to reduce waste and protect the environment. Cloth and plastic-lined bags do help, but are they safe?

Reusable grocery bags are a smart choice but there could be some risk. When you carry food or other items in these bags, they may leave behind germs like E. coli or Salmonella. If the bags are not properly washed and dried before they are used again, these germs remain and can make you sick.

Keep yourself and your family safe. Follow these easy steps to reduce the spread of germs:

**Separate meat, fish or poultry; fresh produce, and ready-to-eat foods.**

- Use separate bags. Dedicate one bag for meat, fish or poultry; another for fresh fruits and vegetables, and another for ready-to-eat foods. It's also a good idea to keep these foods separated in your shopping cart, on the checkout lane's conveyor belt, and at home. This will help prevent germs from spreading.
- Remember: cold food needs to be refrigerated within two hours of leaving the store or market. When temperatures outside are above 90 degrees, cold food should be refrigerated within one hour.

**Always put raw meats into a disposable plastic bag before putting them in a reusable bag.**

- A disposable plastic bag will help contain any juices that drip off raw meat, fish and poultry packages. These juices will then be unable to touch other foods and contaminate them. Disposable plastic bags are usually available in your store's raw meat, fish, poultry or produce areas.
- Immediately after use, throw away disposable plastic bags used for raw meat, fish or poultry. Never reuse bags that contained raw meat, fish or poultry.

**Wash reusable grocery bags often.**

- Cloth reusable bags should be washed in a washing machine using laundry detergent. They should also be dried in the dryer or air-dried.
- Plastic-lined reusable bags should be scrubbed using hot water and soap, then air-dried.
- Before storing, be sure both cloth and plastic-lined reusable bags are completely dry.

**Reusable Bags are best stored in a cool, dry place when possible.**

- Reusable bags are best stored in a cool, dry place when possible. Make sure your bags are clean to inhibit bacteria growth.

**Do not use reusable grocery bags for other purposes.**

- Bags used for groceries should be used only for food. Don't carry items such as baby bottles, toys, gym clothes, and other items in the same reusable bags

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that you take to the grocery store. These simple steps will help reduce the spread of germs to keep you and your family safe.

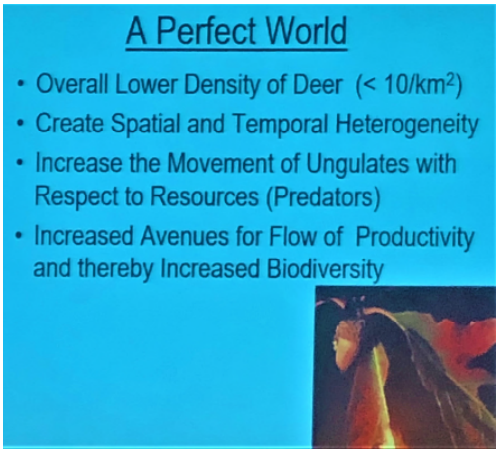
## FOREST PRESERVATION ON STATEN ISLAND

*By Tony Rose*

Participants streamed in from all corners of the College of Staten Island campus. Parking was tight and onlookers jammed even the balconies at the CSI Center for Performing Arts.

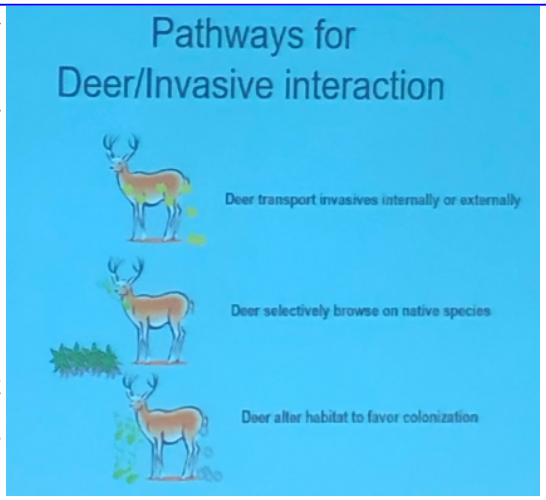
A symposium aimed at illuminating threats to Staten Island's woods and wetlands was sponsored by the Protectors of the Pine Oak Woods, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the NYC Parks Department as well as a number of science departments from the college. Ed Burke led off the event with a plea for people to begin a difficult discussion on how to preserve the legacy of open, wooded areas left to us by preceding generations.

The list of threats is a familiar one; population growth and development on the island, pollution and climate change are all recognized villains. Added to the list of threats this night was the growing presence of deer on the Island.




Islanders have a long history of passing over the Goethals and Outerbridge crossings on their way to New Jersey and Pennsylvania. More recent migrants are leaving New York to settle in the hills of North Carolina.

Newcomers to the island, white-tail




deer have swum across from New Jersey and have swelled to numbers that threaten to possibly eliminate wooded areas in the borough completely.

A natural succession in wooded areas moves growth from grasslands, to shrubs to woods if the conditions are right. The threat posed by deer is immense. The major problem is that in crossing the Arthur Kill, deer have entered the Promised Land. There is abundant greenery, and more importantly, no predators. Staten Island has no wolves, no bears, and no bobcats. The herds reproduce at will.

The ability of the land to cope with browsers and regenerate is called its carrying capacity. Recent population counts indicate the deer in the borough may have reached ten times the carrying capacity of our home island.

How this pressure manifests itself is in the lack of new growth in the many and diverse natural areas of the island. In places as separate as Clay Pit Ponds Park, Latourette and the Graniteville Swamp, deer have denuded the land.

Forests be they local deciduous woods like on Staten Island, as well as rainforests in the Amazon are composed of four components. Leaf litter lies on the ground. It will decay and enrich the soil, returning nutrients from dead leaves back into the soil to be utilized by the nearby trees. The understory is the brushy area we pass through while taking our nature walks and trail repair outings and clean-ups. It is composed of herbaceous plants, woody plants and young trees (defined as less than 5 feet).

The mid-story layer is shrubs and young trees that reach more than five feet above the floor of the forest. The overstory, or canopy is the tent-like structure of the treetops.

Trees breathe, they sweat. Their presence enriches surrounding areas, all the more so in our urban environment. In addition to the shade they provide, trees transpire. That is, they release water vapor while consuming carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. As this water vapor evaporates, the change of state cools the air in the vicinity of the forest. This is particularly important here as the city is composed of buildings and paved areas that absorb sunlight and give off heat throughout the night. These heat islands make life uncomfortable and contribute to the warming of the planet.

Additionally, tree roots capture rainwater and prevent its release into sewer systems overwhelmed by severe storms and flooding events. Woods and wetlands filter pollutants and the bacteria living among the roots are known to break down petroleum and fecal contaminants that would otherwise flow into our harbor waters.

Importantly, forests provide habitat for birds, resident and migratory, and wildlife that make our local ecosystem balanced and richer.

The forests should be self-sustaining. As old growth dies, it makes way for juvenile trees to rise up and make their way to the canopy.

This is where the deer intersect to break nature's long-established

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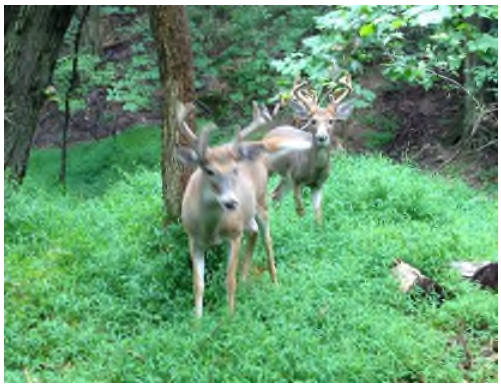
cycle.

Deer and other ungulates are part of the natural order. Browsers prune the trees; making them reach up further and faster in most instances. Here, because we have so exceeded the land's carrying capacity, herds of deer clear cut new growth like a swarm of locusts. They leave nothing behind. The shrubs and the berries birds need for cover and food have disappeared. New trees are gobbled up as soon as they push their tender, delicious shoots above the ground. In Clay Pit Pond Park, state workers who identify and new growth of orchid rush to fabricate a small cage to protect the plant from Bambi and her kin. Large areas of parkland on Staten Island have been fenced off to protect them from predation.



It is impossible to fence off all the parkland in Staten Island.

A program promoted by the Borough President's office has led to a large portion of male deer here to be neutered. Males are easier to spay and more survive the procedure than the equivalent action imposed on does. Since deer live to be twenty years old, it will be a long time before the efficacy of this initiative can be determined. Also, a few males can service large numbers of females, so some question the effectiveness of this project.

Up until now, many city and state agencies have resisted a cull of the herd. Hunting on Staten Island presents as many issues as the deer themselves. Some voices on SILive have called for all the thousands of deer on Staten Island to be captured and transported to a sanctuary. Not only would it be difficult to find a home for a number this large, the practicality of capturing deer exceeds that of trapping turkeys and that project has languished for years.

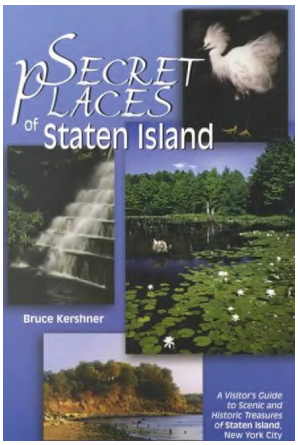
Hunting has been seen here, already. Chopped off heads and hooves found in some island wooded areas demonstrate this. An upstate hunter was caught in Conference House Park sitting high in his tree stand holding his crossbow, waiting, waiting…

So, the bottom line is that the humans of Staten Island need to confront the reality that because of the more recent inhabitants, there is pretty much no new tree growth here. If nothing changes, when the current trees on Staten Island die, there will be no new growth to replace them. The understory of most forests on Staten Island, as well as the mid-story levels up to six or seven feet off the ground have been clear cut by these adorable and abundant newcomers. They present a difficult challenge to those of us who live here and enjoy the local face of nature. We need to face the question and begin the difficult discussion of how to confront the future of forests on Staten Island.

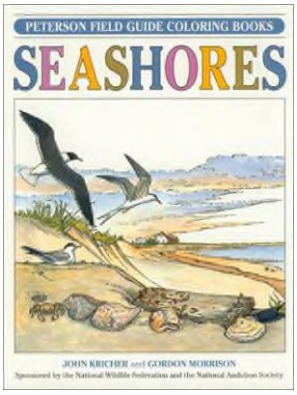
## BOOKS ABOUT STATEN ISLAND (PART 2)

*By Jim Scarcella*

Continuing our series of notable, educational and revealing books about Staten Island, we cannot overlook Bruce Kershner's "Secret Places of Staten Island" published in 1998 (Kendall-Hunt Publishers) with the guidance of Protectors of Pine Oak Woods. Author Kershner, with plenty of assistance from Ellen Pratt and Dick Buegler, provides photos, narratives, hiking trails sketches and milestones relating to Staten Island parks and natural areas. Prominently featured are northwest Staten Island areas, including Mariner's Marsh, the Greenbelt, and our shore treasures of Ft. Wadsworth, Great Kills Park, Mount Loretto, and Conference House Park. The Bluebelt is also detailed. A great must-have book.

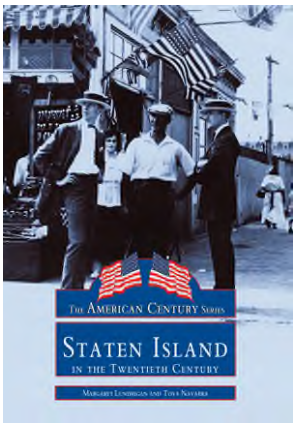



Another great book, while not Staten Island specific, is Peterson First Guides "Seashores" by John Kricher, illustrated by Gordon Morrison. Published by Houghton-Mifflin, the guide has 317 of the most common and conspicuous animals and plants of the seashores, from jellyfish and wrack to clams, gulls and whales, many of which can be seen on Staten Island shorelines. It's all here, from sandy beaches to tide pools and salt marshes.




For a more visual, pictorial guide of events/storyline of Staten Island, Margaret Lundrigan and Tova Navarra have compiled "Staten Island in the Twentieth Century" printed by Arcadia Publishing. The book documents, with photos and narrative, our island in the 1920's, the pre-war years and post-World War II times. It also looks to our future, which seems to be coming

faster than anticipated. Life was simpler then, sometimes difficult, but still rewarding, this book provides an appreciation for where we are today.




Thanks for your attention to the books outlined and stay tuned to our NRPA newsletter for future articles about great books about Staten Island and our shorelines.

## FIRE AND TIDE: HUGUENOT BEACH IN ARTIFACTS AND ART (TERRA MARINE INN)

*By Jim Scarcella*


Staten Island was a relaxation and resort destination for thousands of people, from the late 1800's through the early 20th century. We had spectacular beaches, weather, fisheries and recreation opportunities. One of these magnificent facilities was the Terra Marine Inn located right on Huguenot Beach, between Huguenot Avenue and Holten Avenue, the current location of Wolfe's Pond Park.

The Terra Marine Inn was a beautiful architectural wonder on our east shore.

Perhaps hundreds of thousands stayed there, ate there, sailed or rowed onto placid Raritan Bay from Terra Marine Inn. The inn itself had 150 rooms.

Now a new exhibit, at the Conference House Park Visitor Center (298 Satterlee Street, 718-984-6046), offers us a living glimpse of the operation of the inn and the joys its visitors enjoyed. Called "Fire and Tide: Huguenot Beach in Artifacts and Art", the exhibition is curated by Mike Shanley and Val Falcone and is funded by a DCA grant from Staten Island Council Arts, with additional funding from NYC Department of Cultural Affairs.

Go see this free exhibit to learn and enjoy our maritime heritage. Click here for the digital information

## NRPA ON THE AIR

*By Tony Rose*

Lights! Camera! The Environment!

On a Wednesday night in late February, Jim Scarcella, Nicole Doz and Tony Rose travelled to the studios of SI Community TV to tape an episode of Environmental Issues, a public access program hosted by Pat Brady.

The topic to be discussed was "The Health of the Harbor." The specific issue was mud. Contaminated mud to be precise.

The NRPA was formed forty years ago to prevent the US Army Corps of Engineers proposal to place dredged mud into the bottom of the harbor. The channels in New York harbor have to be fifty-five feet deep to accommodate modern tankers, car carriers and container ships. With the average depth of the harbor being 18 feet deep, a lot of sand and mud must be removed every year. It is estimated dredgers must pull up a million tons (each cubic yard weighs

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one ton) from the harbor bottom every year. That is the equivalent of a Twin Tower.

The Corps needs to put the mud somewhere. Two thirds of it is just mud. About a third of it bears the legacy of New York's industrial past and contains lead, mercury, zinc, cadmium, arsenic, PCB's, PAH's, etc, etc, etc.


The NRPA has turned back all their attempts to put it back into the water to date. Proposals have included a twenty-five-hundred-acre island of contaminated mud off Great Kills, filling in pits in the bottom of the bay where mud was removed for construction as well as filling in the back third of Jamaica Bay.

A new proposal, the Harbor and Tributaries Study (HATS) seeks to put gates across the mouth of the harbor to block storm surges. The gates would be placed on artificial islands. Cue the theme music from Jaws!

Governor Cuomo recently vetoed a bill that would forbid placement of contaminated mud in the harbor, so our state of concern is high.

The topics were given a solid discussion and can be viewed regularly this month on Public Access channels of Spectrum and FIOS TV.

# Schedule of Events:

**NRPA MEETING LOCATION** is at the **Regina M. McGinn, MD Medical Education Center** at Staten Island University Hospital 2nd floor, 475 Seaview Ave, Staten Island, NY 10305 click here for directions

**Saturday, March 28, 2020** NRPA beach cleanup at Oakwood Beach, Tarlton Avenue from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Gloves, bags and refreshments provided. Community service hours certified. For more info: Jim Scarcella 718-873-4291 click here for directions

**Tuesday, April 7, 2020** - NRPA monthly meeting 7:30 PM

**Sunday, April 19, 2020** NRPA beach cleanup at Ft Wadsworth Battery Weed Beach from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Meet at the campground inside the park in the shadow of the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, 210 New York Avenue. Environmental Education, gloves, bags and refreshments provided. Community service hours certified. For more info: National Parks Service Kathy Garofalo, NPS Ranger 718-354-4655, Jim Scarcella 718-873-4291 click here for directions

**Saturday, April 25, 2020** NRPA beach cleanup for Earth Day at Snug Harbor Beach cleanup, on the Kill Van Kull from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Meet at 1000 Richmond Terrace, at the entrance to Sailors Snug Harbor. Community service hours certified. For more info: Jim Scarcella 718-873-4291 click here for directions

**Saturday May 2, 2020** NRPA beach cleanup at Conference House Park Beach from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Meet at Satterlee Street and Hylan Boulevard, Tottenville with NYC H2O, NYC Parks and Councilman Borelli. Community service hours certified. For more info: Jim Scarcella 718-873-4291 click here for directions

**Tuesday, May 5, 2020** - NRPA monthly meeting 7:30 PM

**Saturday, May 23, 2020** NRPA beach cleanup with Friends of Kivlehan Park, Councilman Steve Matteo and Partnership for Parks from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Gloves, bags and refreshments provided. Community service hours certified. For more info: Jim Scarcella 718-873-4291 click here for directions

**Tuesday, June 2, 2020** - NRPA monthly meeting 7:30 PM

**Sunday, June 7, 2020** NRPA beach cleanup at Cedar Grove Beach with Urban Park Rangers from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Meet at Ebbitts Street and Cedar Grove Avenue. Gloves, bags and refreshments provided. Community service hours certified. For more info: Jim Scarcella 718-873-4291 click here for directions

**Dedicated to preserving the marine environment, the Natural Resources Protective Association is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.**
**All memberships expire on December 31, so please renew NOW!**
(All memberships paid after October 1 will also receive credit for the upcoming year)
Are You A Member? Have You Renewed? Please Join Us NOW!

☐ **$15.00 Individual**
☐ **$25.00 Organization**
☐ **$20.00 Family**
☐ **$100.00 Sponsor** (after 5 payments you become Lifetime member)
☐ **$500.00 Lifetime Member**

**YES! I/We want to join the fight!**

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____ Email: _____

Mail to: Natural Resources Protective Association
C/O Richard Chan, Treasurer
Post Office Box 050328
Staten Island, NY 10305

***Join NRPA today***