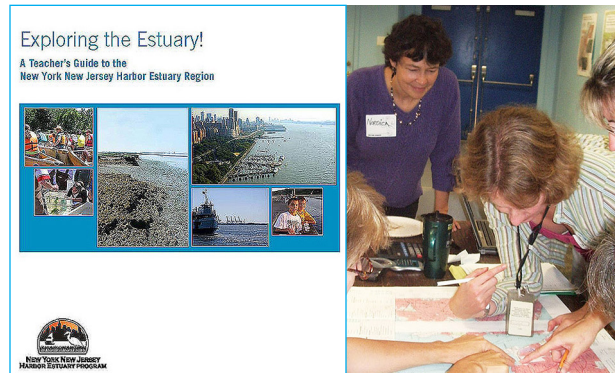


Exploring the Estuary! NYSG Publishes Teacher Guide to New York—New Jersey Harbor Estuary Region

More than 1 million students attend public schools in New York City. The region's teachers are increasingly recognizing and using New York's major urban estuary as a living classroom. In partnership with the US EPA New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program (HEP), New York Sea Grant has prepared a comprehensive guide to metropolitan New York's coastal education resources to help K-12 educators prepare New York's next generation of coastal leaders.

The *Exploring the Estuary!* guide introduces educators to the premier environmental education organizations focused on the region's significant waterways and more than 1,000 miles of shoreline from the lower Hudson River through the New York-NJ Harbor to the western end of Long Island Sound.

The 100-plus page networking guide includes introductory estuary fact sheets plus profiles of more than 50 education organizations and water and estuary-related Internet resources. The profiles include each organization's contact information and details regarding availability of



Above left: the new *Exploring the Estuary!* guide for teachers; right: NYSG Hudson Estuary Specialist Nordica Holochuck with teachers at a NY Aquarium Harbor Estuary-sponsored workshop. Photos: NYSG; M. Kafka Wildlife Conservation Society

estuary-related curriculum, field trip opportunities and classroom programs. The guide also features 16 sample estuary lesson plans contributed by participating organizations.

Approximately 2,000 hard copies of the guide have been distributed to teachers through New York Sea Grant (NYSG) professional development workshops and conferences.

It was the long-standing partnership between NYSG and HEP, a National Estuary Program, and a positive response to estuary stewardship workshops delivered by the NYSG-HEP collaboration that identified the need to update and revise HEP's educational directory in 2009.

The new guide is primarily available via the New York-New Jersey Harbor-Estuary website at www.harborestuary.org. The publication is posted in its entirety and is promoted on both the NYSG and HEP program websites from which educators can download content free of charge ([www.http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/hriver/pdfs/HEP-EstuaryTeachersGuide.pdf](http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/hriver/pdfs/HEP-EstuaryTeachersGuide.pdf)).

Left: New York's urban estuary. Photo: Nordica Holochuck, NYSG

This project meets the performance measures of Sea Grant's Healthy New York Coastal Ecosystems focus area.

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