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February 2017 E-Newsletter

From the Baykeeper

Just in time for Valentine's Day, more ways to LOVE your local waterways! We have been working with Clean Ocean Action to "Rally for the Navesink." Recent water sampling has shown high levels of pathogens in this waterway and many folks have been working to track down pollution sources so that it is safe to swim in the waterway and harvest clams. This partnership has really highlighted the love communities have for their waterways and how they can take steps to protect it.

Debbie Mans

NY/NJ Baykeeper

Upcoming Events

Tell [Governor Cuomo](#) to Oppose Further Delay of NYC's Bag Law!

The New York State legislature voted to postpone implementation of New York City's 5 cent bag fee law that is scheduled to take effect on February 15th.

Tell Governor Cuomo to VETO S.4158/A.4883 at 1-518-474-8390 or gov.cuomo@chamber.state.ny.us TODAY!

Sample script:

Hello, my name is _____. I am calling to let Governor Cuomo know that I oppose S.4158/A.4883. This bill will prevent NYC's disposable bag reduction law from going into effect next week. The NYC bag bill is the result of over three years of advocacy efforts and negotiation. I urge the Governor to protect the city's right to enact local environmental laws and veto S.4158/A.4883.

NJ Boat Sale and Expo
February 16-19, 2017
NJ Convention and Exposition
Center
97 Sunfield Ave, Edison, NJ
[Click here](#) for more
information.

Green is the New Grey - Living
Shoreline Workshop
February 22, 2017
6:00-8:00 PM
Rahway Library
Rahway, NJ
[Click here](#) for more
information.

William Transco Pipeline
Public Forum
February 27, 2017
7:00PM
Sampson G. Smith School
1649 Amwell Road
Somerset, NJ

New Jersey Future's
Redevelopment Forum
March 10, 2017
Hyatt Regency, New
Brunswick, NJ
Register [here](#).

NJ Land Conservation Rally
March 17, 2017
Hyatt Regency Hotel
New Brunswick, NJ
Register [here](#).

[March for Science](#)
April 22, 2017
Washington DC

[People's Climate March](#)
April 29, 2017
Washington DC

**Check out where Combined
Sewer Overflow Events
(CSO) are Happening in
YOUR Area**



*Great turnout at a rally to protect NYC's Bag Law. Photo courtesy of NYC
Councilmember Brad Lander*

Staff Picks!

Sandra's Pick for a Netflix Date

Did you know that [nearly all receipts are coated with BPA](#) (a chemical used to make many plastics) and that BPA can quickly contaminate your blood when you handle your receipts? This is just one startling fact I learned from [Plastic Paradise: the Great Pacific Garbage Patch](#), a 2013 documentary directed by Angela Sun. Sun digs deeper into our reliance on convenient, single-use plastics and the startling threats they pose to ecosystem health, as well as humans. Sun offers ways you can take action now by simply voting with our wallets, buying in bulk, using reusable materials, and getting involved in our communities. You can watch [Plastic Paradise here](#) or on Netflix.

- Sandra Meola, Communications and Outreach Associate

2016 Was a Great Year for our [Pumpout Program!](#)

[Click here](#) to view the map and stay clear from contact with impacted waters 48 hours after rainfall.

ICYMI, Check out our New Website about our [War on Plastic](#) and How to Help!

[Click here](#) to check it out.

Become a Member Today!

[Click here](#) for details.

In the News

[Effort to Curb Plastic Bag Litter Faces Major Opposition](#)

[Telling the Story of Plastic Bags, Plastic Forks, and Microplastics Polluting our Planet](#)


[NY/NJ Baykeeper Unveils Platform to Educate, Engage on Plastic in Area Waterways](#)

[Could Trump Administration Undo Toxic Passaic River Fix?](#)

[As Temperature Dips, Beach Access Debate Gets Underway](#)

Diverting Waste from our Waters One Boat at a Time

THE PROBLEM



With an increased use of our waterways by recreational boaters, waste and chemicals are often dumped overboard, polluting our waters.

THE SOLUTION

NY/NJ Baykeeper offers a free pumpout service for recreational boaters in Jamaica and Raritan Bays and the Navesink River.

32,000 gallons

of waste was diverted from our waterways in 2016 through our pumpout program

Climate Change was not Invented by the Chinese...

We are past the point where sea level rise can be ignored. The Regional Plan Association's new report, [Under Water: How Sea Level Rise Threatens the Tri-State Region](#), highlights the threat of accelerating sea level rise in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut and recommends ways to take action. Areas within our region are at risk for being permanently flooded in a not so distant future. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Stay Involved via Facebook Messenger!

[Facebook message](#) us the word, PLASTIC to receive updates and how YOU can prevent and reduce plastics from entering your local waterways.

We're Hiring a Staff Attorney!

[Click here](#) to view the job description and application instructions.

Protecting, preserving, and restoring the NY/NJ Harbor Estuary since 1989.

Stay connected. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) @NYNJBaykeeper



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