



NEWS

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**For Immediate Release:
October 5, 2011**

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY 2011

What: Three thousand students and teachers, many from your area, engaging in hands-on science exploration of the Hudson River. The Press is invited to attend.

When: Tuesday, October 18, 2011. Most sites run during school hours or after school.

Where: More than 60 waterfront locations between NYC and Troy (see schedule below for a selection of locations and tentative scheduling)

Why: A primary goal of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is to connect New Yorkers to nature. DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program helps prepare students to become stewards of the river's water quality and natural resources.

On **Tuesday, October 18**, environmental education centers and school classes all along the tidal estuary will collect scientific information and share it to portray the ecosystem on this "Day in the Life of the Hudson River." Students will use hands-on field techniques to describe their sites, catch fish in nets, collect water and invertebrate samples, and examine water chemistry parameters. Beyond just a field trip, a "Day in the Life" allows students to collect firsthand information about their communities' natural resources, and explore how their piece of the river fits into the larger ecosystem.

Sponsored by DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program, the "Day in the Life" event is in its ninth year. Some 3,000 students and educators will be sampling the estuary's waters at more than 60 sites from New York Harbor to the Capital District. In partnership with the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University, and Cornell's NYS Water Resource Institute, the Hudson River Estuary Program has recruited and trained river educators to work with students at each site. Findings will be posted online within days of the event.

Students examine the physical and chemical aspects of the river, such as where freshwater runoff and salty seawater meet, and the amount of sediments in the water, features particularly important this year in the wake of tropical storms Irene and Lee. Students will likely observe unique features, such as increased turbidity, even weeks after the storms. "Studying the Hudson is like reading a report card for the whole watershed," notes Estuary Program Coordinator Fran Dunwell. "Students are learning about conditions in communities throughout the valley."

Students at some sites strap on waders and pull nets called "seines" through the water, excited to know more about fish and other aquatic life. They may catch Hudson regulars like spottail shiners and the iconic striped bass, but sometimes real oddities appear, like the bizarre oyster toadfish or a brilliant crevalle jack.

New this year, the event organizers have provided free workshops for teachers on how to apply Day in the Life in the classroom before and after the big day, and using real time-data resources such as the Hudson River Environmental Conditions Observing System in classrooms. Data from all reporting sites will be posted on-line within about a week of the event, along with classroom lessons that directly reference student-collected data, so that teachers can bring the event back to school.

For more detailed information on the event and history of the event, visit the DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/47285.html>.

Participating classes continue to represent the full diversity of the region’s school population, from urban to rural settings. A list of confirmed sites for October 18th is below. “RM” refers to River Miles up the river as measured from the Battery at Manhattan. “NY Hbr” refers to New York Harbor, “ER” is East River, “BXR” is Bronx River, and “HRL” is Harlem River.

For additional information on teachers and partner organizations, and to schedule visits to a site, please email or call Chris Bowser, event coordinator, (845-264-5041; chbowser@gw.dec.state.ny.us).

Day in the Life of the Hudson River, Thursday, October 18th, 2011				
RM	River Site	Partner Organization	School	Time at Site
NY Hbr	Brighton Beach	NYSDEC	International HS at Lafayette	10:15-2:30
NY Hbr	Gerritsen Creek	Urban Park Rangers	Brooklyn School of Inquiry	9:30-11:45
NY Hbr	Canarsie Pier	NYSDEC	Metropolitan Diploma Plus High School	10-12
NY Hbr	Ft. Wadsworth	National Parks Service	St. Clare’s School	9:30-1
NY Hbr	Governor’s Island		New York Harbor School	1-2:30
NY Hbr	Valentino Pier, Red Hook	NY NJ Baykeeper	PS 230	9:45-1
ER	Brooklyn - Manhattan Bridge NYC	Lower East Side Ecology Center	MS 225 Ella Baker School	9-1
ER	East River State Park, Williamsburg	Human Impacts Institute	Brooklyn Academy of Science & the Environment/Prospect Park Alliance	1-3
ER	Gantry Plaza	NYCDEP	Baruch HS	9-12

HRL	Swindler Cove	New York Restoration Project	Amistad Dual Language School, Booker T Washington, PS 5	8:30-10:45, 12-2:15
HRL	Sherman Creek	Friends of Sherman Creek	MS 319	3:30-6
2	Hudson River Park's Pier 40	River Project	Trevor Day School	10-12
3	Hudson River Park's Pier 45	New York University, NYC Soil and Water Conservation District	MS 131, PS 3	9-2:30
4	Hudson River Park's Pier 84	Hudson River Park	The School at Columbia	10-2
4.1	Intrepid	Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum	Amistad Dual Language School	10:15-1
5	Hudson River Park's Pier 95	Hudson River Park	Midtown West School	9-11 AM
10	George Washington Bridge 180 th St		Thurgood Marshall Academy	9:30-1:30
13	Englewood, NJ	Meadowlands Environmental Center	West New York School, Dwight-Englewood School	9-1
14	Inwood Park	Urban Park Rangers	The Young Women's Leadership School of East Harlem	10-2
14	Inwood Park	Urban Park Rangers	Marble Hill School for International Studies	9:30-12
17	Mt St Vincent College	Mt St Vincent College	Frederick Douglass Academy	8:30-2
18	Science Barge	Groundwork Hudson Valley	Fox Meadow Elementary School	10 -1
18	Habirshaw Park, Yonkers	Beczak Environmental Center	Saunders HS	9-1
19	Alpine	Alpine Park, NJ PIP	Alpine School	9-1:30
23	Hasting's MacEachron Waterfront Park		Hastings HS	10:15-2
25W	Piermont Pier, Piermont	Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory	Pearl River HS, Clarkstown South HS, Tappan Zee HS	8:30-2
25E	Mathiessen Park, Irvington		Irvington ES	9:30-12
28	Memorial Park, Nyack		Nyack HS	9:30-1:30
30.5W	Summit Beach	US EPA	Upper Nyack ES	9-11
30.5E	Kingsland Point Park		Sleepy Hollow HS	9-12:30
31	Nyack Beach	Strawtown Art Studio	Blue Rock School	10-2

31	Nyack Beach steps		Nyack MS	8:30-12
32	Louis Engel Waterfront Park, Ossining		Ossining HS	8:30-12:30
35	Bowline Park, Haverstraw		Nanuet HS	8:30-1
36	Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson	Westchester County Parks	Pierre van Cortlandt MS, Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES	8:45-2:15
39	George's Island		Our Montessori School	10-1
40	Riverfront Green, Peekskill		Walter Panas HS	10:15-12
40	Verplanck	Clearwater	Peekskill MS	10-2
41	Steamboat Dock, Verplanck	Teatown Lake Reservation	Mahopac High School	10-12
53	Garrison Landing	Constitution Marsh Audubon, Hudson Highlands Land Trust	Garrison Union Free School	8:30-
55	Little Stony Point, Cold Spring	Hudson Highlands Land Trust	Haldane HS	8:30-12:30
57	Cornwall Landing	Bear Mountain State Park	Willow Ave. School	9:15-2:30
60W	Kowawese, New Windsor	Museum of Hudson Highlands	Bishop Dunn Memorial School	8:30-1:45
60E	Denning's Point	Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries	Rombout MS	
61 E	Newburgh		Storm King High School	1-3
61W	Long Dock, Beacon	Scenic Hudson	South Avenue ES, JV Forrestal ES	9-2:30
61.1	Riverfront Park, Beacon		Valley Central MS	9-2
76	Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie		Arlington HS	8:45-12:30
76	Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie	Mid-Hudson Children's Museum	Sheafe Road ES	9:30-1
78	Quiet Cove, Poughkeepsie	Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYSDEC	Krieger Elem. School, Gayhead Elem. School	9-1:30
85	Norrie Point, Staatsburg	NYSDEC Hudson River Research Reserve	Van Wyck MS, Poughkeepsie HS	9:15-1:15
87	Esopus Meadows	Clearwater	Anna Devine ES	9:30-1:30
92	Robert Post Park		Rondout Valley HS	9-1:45

92	Kingston Point	Forsythe Nature Center, Minnewaska State Park	Bailey MS	8:30- 1:45
97	Ulster Landing Park, Kingston	Cary IES	Kingston HS	9-1:30
103	Saugerties Light House		Woodstock Day School	10-3
105	Lasher Memorial Park, Germantown	Columbia Land Conservancy	Hudson HS	9-1:30
115	Cohotate Preserve, Greene Co.	Cornell Cooperative Extension	Coxsackie-Athens HS, Cairo-Durham MS	9-1
118	Hudson Waterfront Park	Cary IES	Chatham HS	9-1
123	Coxsackie Riverfront Park	NYSDEC	Albany Academy for Girls	9-1:30
127	Stuyvesant Landing, Stuyvesant	Columbia County Soil and Water Conservation District	Alternative Learning Center	3-5
133	Schodack Island State Park	Childrens Museum of Science and Tech.	Doane Stuart School	9:30- 1:30
138	Henry Hudson Park, Bethlehem	College of Saint Rose	Delaware Community School	11:15-1
144	Rensselaer Boat Launch	NYSDEC, HRECOS	Tech Valley HS	9-11
153	Green Island	NYSDEC, HRECOS	Robert C Parker School	9:30- 11:30
153	Corning Preserve	NYSDEC	Montessori Magnet School	9:30- 1:30
Lock 5	Riverside Park, Schuylerville	Cornell Cooperative Extension, HBRW	4H Home School The Adirondack School	9-12
RM	River Site	Partner Organization	School	Time at Site

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