

Cornell Cooperative Extension Suffolk County

Marine Program
Suffolk County Environmental Learning Center
3690 Cedar Beach Road
Southold, NY 11971
Phone: (631) 852-8660 ext. 36
Fax: (631) 852-8662
cp26@cornell.edu
<http://ccesuffolk.org/marine>

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Dear Friends of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County Marine Program,

Thank you for supporting the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Marine Program. For over 35 years our focus has been to *work directly with Long Island residents to address issues affecting the local marine environment while also supporting the rural maritime traditions of commercial fishing and aquaculture*. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, we are proud to have this unique perspective.

With more than 900 miles of coastline, the waters surrounding Suffolk County are an integral part of life for local residents and visitors alike.

We are grateful for your commitment to the Marine Program and its mission and we write today to ask that you consider making a gift to our year-end fund.

Through your generosity, the Marine Program has made remarkable progress. Consider this:

- Each year, our Marine Program reaches **thousands** of local citizens through our outreach, education and restoration work throughout Long Island.
- Each year we produce **10's of millions** of oysters, clams and scallops to enhance local waters in one of our shellfish hatcheries.
- Youth education is a priority. In a non-COVID year we typically reach **thousands of children** through a variety of in-person lectures, field trips and both day and overnight camps. Currently, we offer many digital education resources including videos and interactive web.
- We provide up-to-date information about all aspects of the marine and coastal environment, providing services to residents throughout the region. Over **250 families** are involved with growing shellfish as part of our community based shellfish restoration efforts.
- Our senior Marine Program staff alone have collectively over **300 years of experience** in addressing local issues.

Your support this year is especially meaningful during these unprecedented times and will support a wide range of education, conservation, and programming initiatives that foster the understanding and enjoyment of Long Island's waters.

With your help, we will continue to provide the unbiased, thoughtful services that will remain the hallmark of our organization for decades to come.

Sincerely,



Christopher Pickerell
Marine Program Director