

Together We Are Saving Buzzards Bay



Inside: Learn how your support is...



Making our coastal waters cleaner and safer

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Because of your determination: Progress toward cleaning up Cape Cod's coastal waters

The first signs of nitrogen pollution started creeping into Cape Cod's coves and harbors in the 1970s. Plants and animals, like the iconic bay scallop, began to disappear, leaving large mats of slimy seaweed in their place.

This growing nitrogen pollution problem was identified in Cape Cod's 208 Water Quality Management Plan, released in 1978. That plan, a requirement of the Clean Water Act, should have been updated each year and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

But it never was. For 35 years, Cape Cod's nitrogen pollution has only gotten worse.



The 208 plan will provide Cape Cod with solutions for nitrogen pollution but there is more to be done. With your continued support, future generations will enjoy clean water.

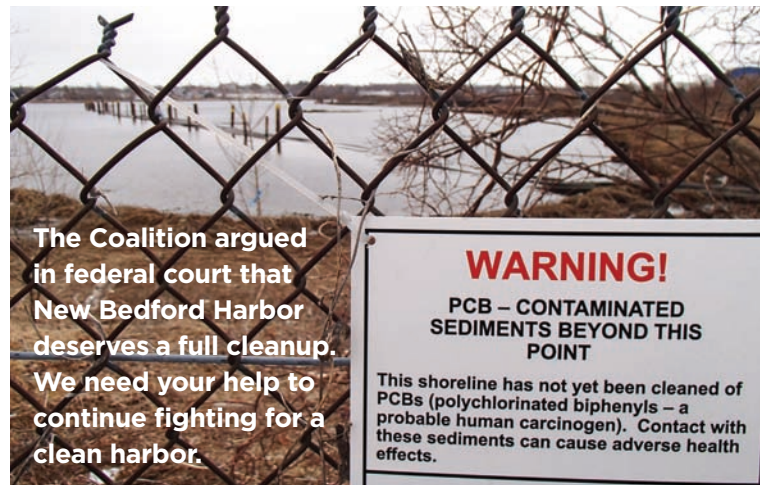
As the Coalition fought for clean water in Bourne and Falmouth, it became clear that all Cape Cod communities needed to work together to find a cost-effective solution. With the support of members like you, we pushed, through litigation, for an updated regional plan to clean up the Cape's coastal waters.

This year, with your support, our message got through. The state provided \$3.35 million to update the plan and chart a course for clean water on Cape Cod. A new plan will be completed by next summer.

Help us continue fighting for a clean New Bedford Harbor

With the backing of 8,500 members, over 2,000 petition signers, and local elected officials, the Coalition went to federal court in September to battle for the best cleanup of New Bedford Harbor's toxic PCB pollution. The Coalition argued that a proposed \$366 million settlement between the EPA and AVX wasn't enough to fully clean up the harbor, and would allow polluters to walk away forever without being held responsible for future cleanup costs.

Although the judge approved the settlement, the Coalition is determined to continue fighting for New Bedford Harbor's future.



The Coalition argued in federal court that New Bedford Harbor deserves a full cleanup. We need your help to continue fighting for a clean harbor.

Visit www.savebuzzardsbay.org/NewBedfordHarbor for the latest on this developing issue.



But as the past 35 years have proven, a plan isn't enough to clean up the Bay. We need your continued commitment to solve the Cape's nitrogen pollution problem forever. Keep up on the Coalition's work to clean up Cape Cod's coastal waters at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/CapeCod.

Wareham sets an example for all Bay communities to tackle nitrogen pollution from septic systems



Through a multi-year community effort spearheaded by the Coalition, the Wareham Board of Health recently passed regulations to limit nitrogen pollution from new septic systems installed in the town.

With this historic action to safeguard clean water, Wareham has set an example for all communities working to tackle the Bay's biggest source of nitrogen pollution.

Learn more at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/Wareham

Westport Rivers to receive nitrogen target this winter. But how long will other polluted waterways wait?

Responding to appeals from the Coalition and the Westport Fishermen's Association, the state has committed to establishing a target this winter to reduce nitrogen pollution and restore the Westport Rivers.

But other harbors and coves still lag behind. The Coalition is continuing to push for nitrogen targets, or TMDLs, for polluted waterways in Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Wareham, Bourne, and Falmouth.

Learn more about nitrogen pollution at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/StopNitrogen



Thousands make a statement for clean water at the Buzzards Bay Swim and Watershed Ride. Join them next year!

We believe in clean water. That was the rallying call of more than 2,500 people like you at the Buzzards Bay Swim and Buzzards Bay Watershed Ride.

More than 380 swimmers and cyclists participated, inspiring donations from 2,000 friends and family members and helped by 250 volunteers. Together, these supporters raised nearly \$250,000 to help *Save Buzzards Bay*.



www.savebuzzardsbay.org/Swim

www.savebuzzardsbay.org/WatershedRide

With your help, we can preserve 400 acres of coastal land along Nasketucket Bay

As you begin down the trail at Nasketucket Bay State Reservation, it's easy to imagine you've gone back in time. You hike through a coastal forest, listening to the songs of birds and the wind in the trees. When you reach the shore, the clear waters of Nasketucket Bay stretch for miles in front of you.

Few coastal bays in Massachusetts have such rich eelgrass meadows, shellfish beds, and fish and wildlife populations as Nasketucket Bay. Although much of the shoreline is now protected through years of Coalition-led efforts, large areas remain vulnerable to development. Without conservation, this land could be lost forever.



Nasketucket Bay can still be saved before it goes the way of other coastal waterways: polluted, overdeveloped, and devoid of its unique charm. Conserving this sensitive land will preserve the scenic beauty of Fairhaven and Mattapoissett, and protect Buzzards Bay's health.

In what is the largest coastal land conservation project currently underway in Massachusetts, the Coalition is working to protect 400 acres of forest and farmland around Nasketucket Bay at a cost of \$6 million. A significant portion of this land will be open for you to discover, explore, and enjoy through a bigger state reservation and new links to

With the protection of 300 acres in Middleborough, everybody wins

The Coalition worked together with the Wankinquoah Rod & Gun Club, the town of Middleborough, and the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game to permanently protect over 300 acres of land in the Weweantic River watershed. The project expands the Rocky Gutter Wildlife Management Area, a favorite spot for hunters, mountain bikers, and nature enthusiasts.

Learn more about the Coalition's work to protect watershed lands at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/ProtectLand.



Although they are far from the Bay's shores, these 300 acres of protected land will safeguard clean water in the Weweantic River, the Bay's largest freshwater tributary.



We need your support to complete the largest land conservation project in Coalition history. Help us protect 400 acres of coastal land in Fairhaven and Mattapoissett forever.

the popular Phoenix/Mattapoissett Bike Path. To complete the project within the next year, we are seeking donations from people like you.

Together, we can protect these natural resources for future generations. Visit www.savebuzzardsbay.org/NasketucketBay to learn how you can contribute and make a difference.

Work has begun on a new future for the Acushnet River



As you read this, bulldozers and excavators are ripping out centuries of industrial use at the Coalition's Acushnet Sawmill property and transforming the site into a public park.

By next fall, you will be able to walk along new trails, paddle through the pond, and enjoy this special place that celebrates the Acushnet River.

Follow this project at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/AcushnetSawmill



Explore our conservation area at the Mattapoissett River Reserve

Explore over 300 acres of wetlands, streams, and forests at the Mattapoissett River Reserve, part of the Coalition's growing network of conservation areas. The Acushnet, Weweantic, and Mattapoissett river reserves protect clean water and provide incredible places for you to discover the Buzzards Bay watershed.

Find great places to discover Buzzards Bay at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/FindAnAdventure

Buzzards Bay Coalition

Dedicated to the restoration, protection and sustainable use and enjoyment of our irreplaceable Bay and its watershed. The Coalition works to improve the health of the Bay ecosystem for all through education, conservation, research and advocacy.

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Buzzards Bay Coalition is a member of the Waterkeeper Alliance and the Land Trust Alliance.

You can leave the legacy of a healthy Buzzards Bay



Your support is making a difference today but what kind of Buzzards Bay will we leave for the next generation to enjoy?

Please consider remembering the Coalition in your will or estate plans. For more information, or if you have already included the Coalition in your will, please contact Maureen Coleman at (508) 999-6363 ext. 202 or coleman@savebuzzardsbay.org.

Fairhaven sisters discover their Buzzards Bay thanks to your support

Meet Cheyenne and Savannah. These energetic sisters from Fairhaven love to play sports outside, but rarely went for a walk in the woods. They had never gone quahogging and didn't know that cranberries grow in bogs.

That all changed this summer.

The sisters attended the Coalition's first-ever Trail Blazers Camp, delivered in partnership with YMCA Southcoast and funded by the Women's Fund of Southeastern Massachusetts. Over five days in August, the campers – all young girls from Fairhaven, Dartmouth, and New Bedford – dug for clams, hiked trails, mucked through a swamp, and met female role models in environmental careers.

Through the Coalition's first-ever Trail Blazers Camp, Cheyenne, Savannah, and other local girls explored the outdoors. Your support is empowering our next generation to discover Buzzards Bay.



The girls left Trail Blazers Camp with a new fascination for nature. Cheyenne discovered that she has a natural ability to attract butterflies, and she even trained a mud crab to hold a bay scallop shell in its claws! Savannah thinks she may become a scientist like the bacteriologist the girls met one afternoon.

More than 2,000 children like Cheyenne and Savannah got out and explored the Bay and watershed with the Coalition this year.

Kids identified shells in New Bedford and canoed in Rochester. They caught blue crabs in Bourne and wood frogs

Bay Adventures connect people like you to the outdoors through fun activities like quahogging, stand-up paddleboarding, and nature photography.



Buzzards Bay is waiting for you to explore

Imagine yourself wading into the water, raking the bottom until you dig up a quahog. Imagine paddling upriver with your family on a warm autumn morning, or watching a child grin as she picks up a fiddler crab.

In 2013, 450 people enjoyed experiences like these through a Bay Adventure offered by the Coalition – part of our commitment to connect people like you to the outdoors. Through your support, we are able to offer most Bay Adventures for free so everybody can enjoy them.

Join us at our next Bay Adventure – visit www.savebuzzardsbay.org/BayAdventures for a full list of upcoming programs.



in Dartmouth. They cleaned up a pond in Wareham and tested water quality in Falmouth.

Thanks to your support, our next generation is building lasting memories on Buzzards Bay. But perhaps most importantly, they are learning that the Bay is theirs to explore and protect.



Visit a free Buzzards Bay center in New Bedford or Woods Hole

Discovering Buzzards Bay begins at the Richard C. Wheeler Bay Learning Center in New Bedford and the Buzzards Bay Discovery Center in Woods Hole. In 2013, your support allowed more than 6,500 people to hold a bay scallop, attend an educational program, and see the Bay from an osprey's view at one of our centers.

Plan your visit at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/OurLearningCenters

Workshops give your local decision makers solutions to nitrogen pollution



More than 80 local officials and dedicated residents attended this year's Decision Makers Workshop series, proving that Bay communities are hungry for solutions to nitrogen pollution. We will continue to offer free workshops like these to provide your decision makers with practical solutions to improve the Bay's health.

Find resources and details about upcoming workshops at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/DecisionMakers



Support the *Annual Fund for the Bay*

Every day, your support makes amazing things happen for Buzzards Bay and its residents. But we still have much more work to do. **Please make a gift today to the *Annual Fund for the Bay*.**

Use the enclosed envelope or give online at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/AnnualFund.

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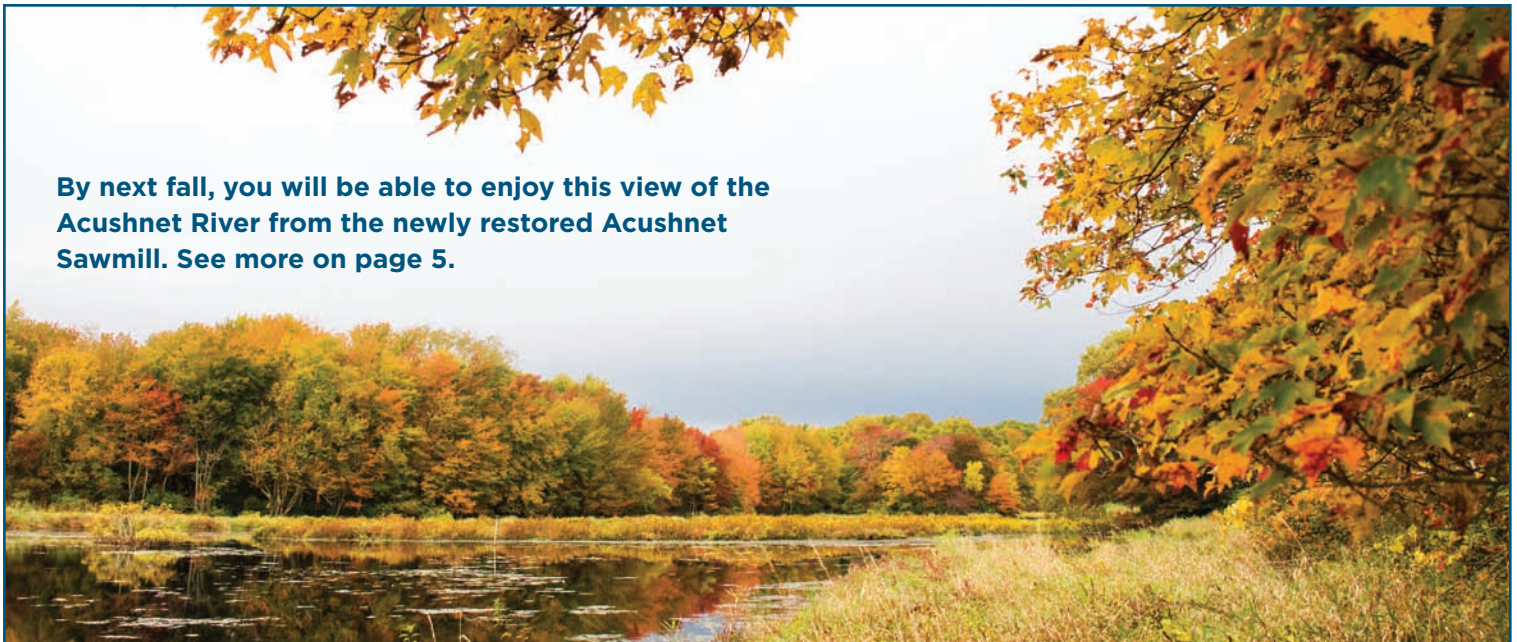
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Working to protect and restore coastal, river, and drinking water quality for the people of Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Acushnet, Rochester, Mattapoissett, Marion, Wareham, Carver, Middleborough, Plymouth, Bourne, Falmouth, and Gosnold.



By next fall, you will be able to enjoy this view of the Acushnet River from the newly restored Acushnet Sawmill. See more on page 5.



Have you heard the latest?

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter at www.savebuzzardsbay.org/BayBuzz

or Find us on:

