

## Thank you for helping to protect clean water!



**Inside: Learn how you are...**



**Driving solutions to nitrogen pollution on CAPE COD**

page 2-3



**Restoring a river and creating a park in NEW BEDFORD**

page 4-5



**Helping families explore a beach in**

**DARTMOUTH**

page 6-7

**And much more!**

# Your support is driving solutions to nitrogen pollution on Cape Cod

In October officials gathered on the banks of the Wareham River to announce \$728,000 in new federal grants for projects that reduce nitrogen pollution to Buzzards Bay. Three of the projects are Coalition-led and focus attention on some of the Bay's highest cleanup priorities.

In West Falmouth Harbor where Coalition science and advocacy has already resulted in landmark improvements to the town's sewer plant, we will partner with the town to upgrade 20 septic systems that contribute nitrogen directly to the shore. On Red Brook Harbor in Bourne, we'll work with Kingman Marina to expand its wastewater system to remove nitrogen from dozens of nearby homes. And, we'll continue our work with cranberry growers and the UMass Cranberry Experiment Station to research ways to reduce fertilizer losses from bogs.

Also, this summer, the Cape Cod Commission released – after a 36-year wait – the draft 208 Water Quality



Management Plan. This plan is a direct result of our legal action to force the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to act to clean up nitrogen pollution. The Coalition is reviewing the plan to ensure that officials chart the strongest possible course for clean water on Cape Cod.

Finally, thanks to a \$1 million grant from the MacArthur Foundation, the Coalition is working with scientists at

## We're still fighting to keep your Bay safe from oil spills

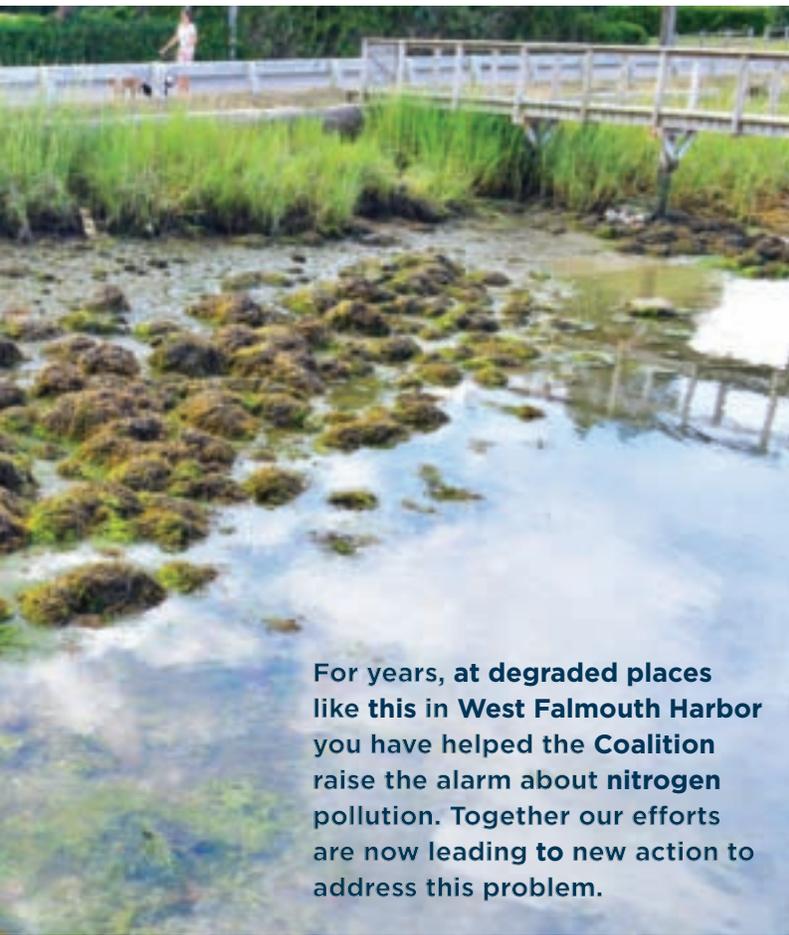
The U.S. Coast Guard and the oil transport industry are still trying to weaken the Massachusetts Oil Spill Prevention Act, which has kept the Bay safe from oil spills since 2004. The Coalition continues to defend this law at every turn.

Additionally, the Coalition is working with the City of New Bedford and the Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Protection to address the chronic "mystery spills" problem in New Bedford Harbor.

Learn more at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/oil](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/oil)

**With your support, we will never stop fighting to protect Buzzards Bay from oil spills.**





For years, at degraded places like this in West Falmouth Harbor you have helped the Coalition raise the alarm about nitrogen pollution. Together our efforts are now leading to new action to address this problem.

## A strong barrier beach in Westport that everyone can enjoy

At the entrance to Westport Harbor lies a barrier beach that leads out to the dramatic Point of Rocks, or “Knubble.” Not only does this barrier provide outstanding views and habitat, but its dunes protect the Westport River inlet from storms.

The Coalition is working with neighbors and town officials to secure funds to rebuild and restore these dunes and implement an access plan that allows everyone to enjoy one of the Bay’s most scenic and sensitive places.

Learn more at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/westportharborbarrierbeach](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/westportharborbarrierbeach)



the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) to expand our monitoring program and investigate connections between water quality declines and a changing climate.

Learn more at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/stopnitrogen](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/stopnitrogen)

## Mark your calendars for the 2015 Buzzards Bay Swim and Watershed Ride!

Each year, hundreds of athletes swim and bike for clean water during the Buzzards Bay Swim and Watershed Ride. Join us next year for the Swim on Saturday, June 20 and the Watershed Ride on Sunday, October 4.

Also, our Golf Outing returns on Tuesday, May 26. Space is limited, so get your foursome together now!

Visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/support](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/support) to learn more about these exciting events.



SWIM  
JUNE 20, 2015

[www.savebuzzardsbay.org/Swim](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/Swim)



WATERSHED  
RIDE  
OCTOBER 4, 2015

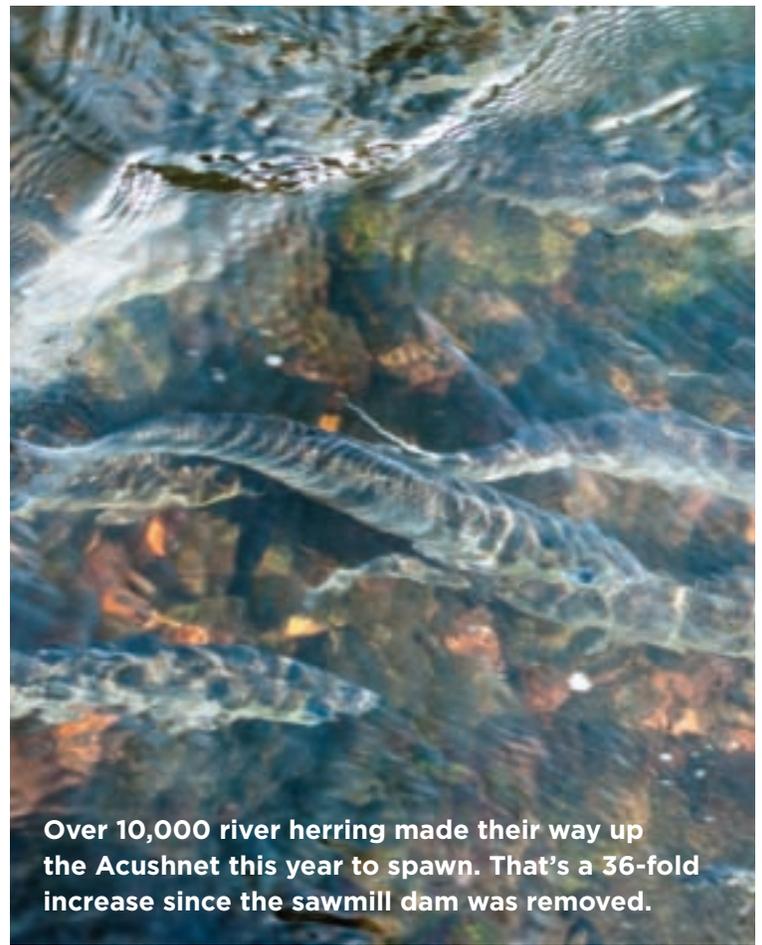
[www.savebuzzardsbay.org/WatershedRide](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/WatershedRide)

# The Acushnet River's rebirth is gaining national attention

With backhoes and bulldozers barreling across the site, you'd be forgiven for thinking that the Coalition was building a new development at the Acushnet Sawmill. Just the opposite is true – the site is undergoing a *deconstruction* to return this section of the Acushnet River to a more natural state.

Once restoration is completed this winter, the Sawmill - just steps from New Bedford's north end - will open as a public park after native plants have an opportunity to establish themselves.

To keep up with the latest progress at the Sawmill, visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/acushnetsawmill](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/acushnetsawmill)



Over 10,000 river herring made their way up the Acushnet this year to spawn. That's a 36-fold increase since the sawmill dam was removed.



It's full steam ahead on the restoration, set to be completed by next spring.



EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, the federal government's top environmental official, visited the Sawmill in September. (Image: Eric Vance/EPA)

## Another special place protected

Near Chapoquoit Beach in West Falmouth lies a special stretch of beach and coastal habitat. Tall dunes rise up over the shore, protecting a community of plants and shrubs sandwiched between West Falmouth Harbor and Buzzards Bay.

It's a rare site and a special place. And now it's protected forever with a conservation restriction acquired in July by the Coalition in partnership with The 300 Committee.



You help protect special places like this.

## Land conservation program receives national accreditation



Over the past two decades, you've helped the Coalition protect more than 6,500 acres of land from Westport to Cape Cod. This year we became an accredited land trust, meeting high standards for organizational strength and fiscal responsibility set by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. This is the highest recognition that a land trust can receive, held by only 17% of conservation organizations in America.



## Buzzards Bay's largest coastal land protection project in a generation is almost complete

After four years, the Nasketucket Bay Land Conservation Project is nearly complete! Because of your support, more than 400 acres of coastal lands are being conserved — the largest project of its kind in 30 years. This project will not only protect clean water in Nasketucket Bay, but will also give local residents more special places to explore.

Learn more at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/nasketucketbay](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/nasketucketbay)

### 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.



## Make a gift today to the Annual Fund for the Bay

Thanks to your support, we've come so far together! But with new threats to our Bay emerging, we can't afford to lose momentum. Your gift to the *Annual Fund for the Bay* will make it possible for the Coalition to fight every day to protect clean water in your community.

Please use the enclosed envelope or give online at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/annualfund](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/annualfund)

## A ten year old's first trip to the Bay

With hands full of shells and a smile across his face, a 10-year-old boy walked up to Jess, a Coalition educator, on East Beach in New Bedford. He looked up and whispered to her:

**“Can I bring my grandfather here?” the boy asked. “I want to show him this place.”**

**“Of course,” Jess replied. “This is your beach and this is your Bay.”**

For 10 years, this boy has lived in New Bedford, the city by the sea. But until he participated in an outdoor exploration program with the Coalition, he had never been down to the water. He is not alone — many kids rarely get to experience our local environment.

Because of your support, that's changing.

The Coalition is making outdoor exploration a universal part of growing up in the Buzzards Bay region. The boy in this story was one of more than 3,000 youth who discovered the Bay with the Coalition this past year.



You helped these kids explore Buzzards Bay, some for the first time ever.



Families explore life on a beach in Dartmouth through a free Coalition Bay Adventure.

## A new way to connect with the Bay. Join us for a Bay Adventure!

Have you ever made your own fishing pole? Or caught bugs in a stream? Or snorkeled through eelgrass? In 2014, more than 600 people enjoyed Buzzards Bay by embarking on Bay Adventures like these.

With your support, over 90% of these activities are free. And with activities like the ones mentioned above, 100% of Bay Adventures are completely awesome.

Visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/bayadventures) to sign up for an upcoming Bay Adventure.



## Making construction and clean water work together for the future



Growth and development are inevitable, but pollution doesn't need to be. This past spring, we welcomed more than 50 of the region's decision makers to a three-part workshop series about Bay-friendly development that supports construction and protects clean water.

To learn more about Decision Makers Workshops, visit [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/decisionmakers](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/decisionmakers)



## Buzzards Bay Center outperforms on energy savings

Our energy-saving Buzzards Bay Center is performing even better than expected! Our green headquarters uses less than one-third of the electricity compared to an average U.S. office building.

With more solar panels coming soon, the building will generate 20% of its own electricity. In addition, the newly dedicated Richard S. "Chip" Morse Green Roof is keeping polluted runoff from most rainstorms out of city sewers.

Learn more by visiting [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/buzzardsbaycenter](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/buzzardsbaycenter)



## What will your legacy be?

One of the most enduring ways you can protect clean water for future generations is to include the Coalition in your will or estate plans. By doing so, you can ensure that your assets support a cause you love while also having tax benefits for your heirs.

To join over a dozen people who have already included the Coalition in their will or estate plans, contact Marc Bellanger at (508) 999-6363 ext. 202 or [bellanger@savebuzzardsbay.org](mailto:bellanger@savebuzzardsbay.org).

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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.



Bay Adventure participants at a *Learn to Quahog* program at Silvershell Beach in Marion.



## Have you heard the latest?

Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter at [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/BayBuzz](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/BayBuzz)

or find us on:

