



September 2020 Edition

What We've Been Up To!

Our Shellfish Restoration Programs has almost been completed! What a successful summer we've had and it could not have done without all of our amazing volunteers and their hard work. These last few meetings have been about checking on our oysters, cleaning them if need be, and chatting with the awesome people who show up to help! Our next two meetings in the month of October will be about moving our little guys into our sanctuary sites, check out the dates below. This summer we noticed the abundance of sponges, sea squirts, and other filter feeding competitors that may grow on the oyster cages decrease compared to past years. We are unsure as to why this may be but will be continuing to brainstorm ideas for the cause.



On Sunday September 20th we were able to host our first beach cleanup of the season at MacAllistar Park in Port Jefferson. On that day we joined the rest of the world by participating in the International Coastal Cleanup. If you're looking for more information on plastic pollution in our oceans check out the wonderful organization, [The Ocean Conservancy](https://www.theoceanconservancy.org/), who like the rest of us, are working hard to keep the water clean. Roughly 30 volunteers dedicated part of their day to picking up garbage and all volunteers were given a data sheet to fill out cataloging the different objects they collected. If you enjoy cleaning the beach on your own time check out the app, Clean Swell, by The Ocean Conservancy, as it is a digital version of the sheets we completed. It is incredibly important to submit data about the things we may find along our shores as that allows us to continue making changes in our world! For 2020, the top 10 items found starting at number one were food wrappers, cigarette butts, plastic beverage bottles, plastic bottle caps, straws & stirrers, plastic cups & plates, plastic grocery bags, plastic take out/away containers, other plastic bags, and finally plastic lids. We highly recommend checking out the [2020 report](#) for the International Coastal Cleanup to continue reading about the many things that enter the oceans around the world.



Interested in Joining Us?

Head over to our website at coastalsteward.org and click on our [News and Events tab](#) for more details.

Our next Shellfish Restoration Program dates for the month of October are:

October 17th from 8:00am - 12:00pm

October 31st from 8:00am - 12:00pm

Our next beach clean up dates for the month of October are:

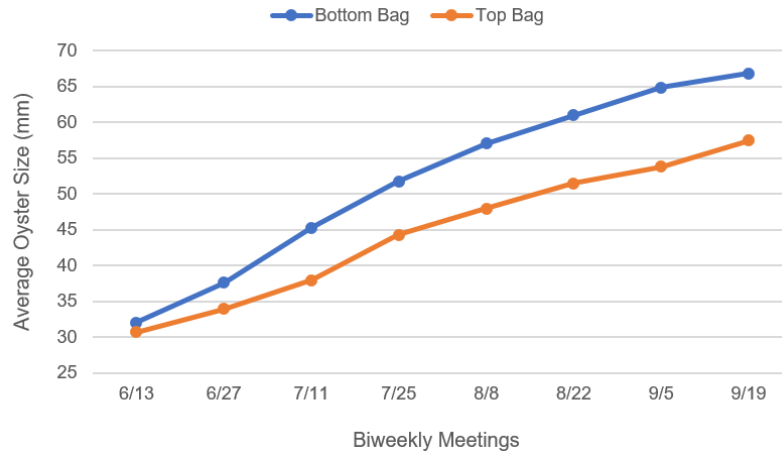
October 4th from 8:00am - 12:00pm at Mt. Sinai Harbor/Port Jefferson Side

October 10th from 9:00am - 1:00pm at Centennial Park



An update on our oyster growth is shown in the graph below. We have seen a 7% increase in

growth in our top bag and a 3% growth in our bottom. We measure the growth of our oysters to determine which conditions are most optimal in order for us to care for our future populations.



Did You Know?

You can purchase your very own Coastal Steward apparel? Head over to [Tidal Tees Apparel](#) where we have a collection of items and 100% of the profits come back to us!

