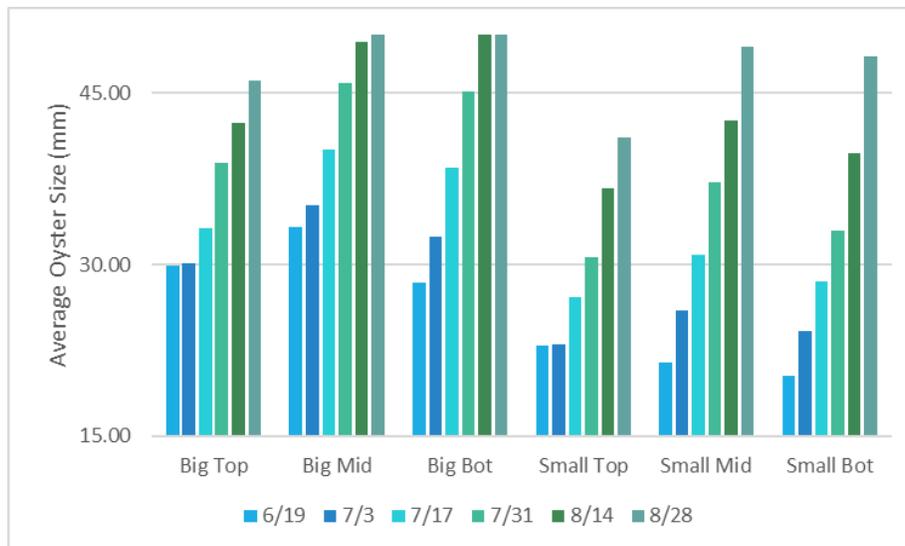




## What We've Been Up To!

Hi everyone and welcome back! Our 2021 summer has been packed with events throughout our community. We've had multiple shellfish restoration programs, beach cleanups, and educational programs!

The oysters we are raising this year have been nothing but successful, continuously growing larger and larger every week. Based on the data our volunteers have been collecting, it seems that right now all oysters are happy and growing no matter their position in the cages. Our shellfish may be growing at a constant rate due to the recently dredged inlet allowing for a greater flux of water and nutrients passing over them. Oysters are filter feeding animals meaning they have two siphons that they use to intake food and water and expel waste from their bodies. When the oyster brings in water it filters out small organisms and nutrients that they then consume. Having more filtered and cleaner water allows for sunlight to penetrate into greater depths aiding to create new marine habitats for other shellfish and marine organisms. A natural occurrence that can limit the oysters hard work is something called a harmful algal bloom. This is an event that can occur regularly in the Long Island sound that creates a layer of algae on the surface of the water. This layer stops light from penetrating the water column and takes up lots of oxygen which can be potentially fatal to marine organisms. This is why it is very important for us to increase self-sustaining oyster populations that can help to deter these blooms.





## Interested in Joining Us?

Bring your friends and family to volunteer with us and get in the outdoors! Head over to our website and click on our [News and Events tab](#) for more details.

### **Shellfish Restoration Program: (Saturday)**

*September 11th at 8:00 am Cedar Beach, Mt. Sinai*

*September 25th at 8:00 am Cedar Beach, Mt. Sinai*

### **Beach Cleanup: (Sunday)**

*September 12th (International Coastal Cleanup) at 8:30 am Centennial Park Beach, Port Jefferson*

*September 19th (Underwater Cleanup) at 9:00 am Centennial Park Beach, Port Jefferson*



## Support Coastal Steward!

We'd like to take this opportunity again to thank all of our volunteers and those who have donated to CSLI in the past. By supporting us, we can continue our mission of restoring and preserving LI's coastline through education, raising public awareness and community action.

You can support us by making a tax-deductible donation to our organization that supports our marine education programs. Click [here](#) to help make a difference with us!

Another way to help our non-profit (501(c)(3)) is by using 'AmazonSmile' whenever you order something from Amazon.com. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to CSLI. And there's no extra cost!

Simply navigate to <https://smile.amazon.com> and click on the 'Get started' button. After signing in, you will need to choose 'Coastal Steward Long Island' as the charitable organization. There's a 'Learn more about AmazonSmile' link at the bottom of their page to get more information.

## 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 a 100% of the profits come back to us!



## Interesting Information

On Sunday September 12th we will be hosting our International Coastal Cleanup at MacAllister Park and the Long Island Sound. On this day we will be joined by the rest of the world participating in their local cleanups as well. If you're looking for more information on plastic pollution in our oceans check out the wonderful organization, The Ocean Conservancy, who like the rest of us, are working hard to keep the water clean. Last year we had roughly 30 volunteers who dedicated part of their day to finding trash and completing a data sheet that catalogs the different objects and materials 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 will be completing and you can use it anytime you walk the beaches! It is incredibly important to submit data about the things we may find along our shores as it allows us to continue making changes in our world! From 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!

