



What We've Been Up To & More

Looking for some fun summer plans? Try volunteering with us! From beach cleanups to eastern oyster restoration, join us in giving back to our precious environment. In this update, we will discuss our volunteer events, our amazing supporters who help keep CSLI growing, and highlight some of the native species that call Long Island's coastal ecosystems home.

Beach Cleanups, Shellfish Restoration and Marine Ecology Programs

Since our last update, we've hosted four beach cleanup events, four shellfish restoration events and held a marine ecology class for the Belle Terre Youth group . Also, thank you to all the volunteers who joined us for these events – your dedication to environmental stewardship never goes unnoticed. We thank you for your contributions, and so does the environment!



Share Your Experience

Have you joined us for a beach cleanup or SRP event? Tell us about it! Your feedback means a lot to us at CSLI and we would love to hear about your experiences with our programs. Feel free to head to our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages and tell us about what event you attended and how it went. Sharing your experiences will not only help CSLI grow, it will inspire others to roll up their sleeves and join the fun!



Long Island Natives



Eastern Oyster

The Eastern oyster, the species we grow and release, is the only oyster native to Long Island. These oysters form oyster reefs – massive filtration systems that keep our waters clean and provide critical habitat for many marine species. Eastern oysters can live up to 20 years, grow up to 8 inches and filter 50 gallons of water per day!



Atlantic Horseshoe Crab

Despite its name, the Atlantic horseshoe crab is an arthropod, meaning it is more closely related to spiders than to crabs. Atlantic horseshoe crabs are “living fossils” and have undergone little change in the past 350 million years! Between May and June, thousands of horseshoe crabs gather on Long Island's beaches to spawn, with females laying thousands of eggs.



Winter Flounder

Winter flounder are a popular target species for fishing, making them an important part of the fishery industry.

During development, the winter flounder's left eye migrates to the right side of the body after spending a few weeks settling into life on the bottom. They get their name from their migration patterns, moving inshore during the winter to spawn.



Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle

Kemp's Ridley sea turtles are the smallest sea turtles in the world, weighing between 70 to 100 pounds and growing up to two feet long. Kemp's Ridleys are known for their unique nesting called "arribada", where females gather to lay their eggs simultaneously on the beach.



Piping Plover

During spring and summer, piping plovers journey from the south to breed along Long Island's sandy beaches. These federally protected birds are an indicator species, meaning their well-being and population dynamics are a reflection of the health of the ecosystem.



Harbor Seal

Harbor seals inhabit coastal habitats across Long Island and are impressive divers, capable of reaching depths of 500 meters and holding their breath for up to 30 minutes. Harbor seals are the most abundant seal species on Long Island and can often be found resting in large groups.

Sources:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Want to Get Involved?

We have a lot of fun events planned for the rest of the summer and fall – you don't want to miss out! Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events.

SPONSORSHIPS NEEDED!!!

Our International Coastal Cleanup event will be held on September 27th at McAllister Park! Join us in preserving our coastline and giving back to the environment. We are actively seeking a sponsor for this important event. Please contact us at 631-941-6528.

Our Supporters

As a non-profit, The Coastal Steward Long Island relies on supporters to keep our programs thriving. A special thanks to Harborside Marine, Inc., the Town of Brookhaven, the Village of Belle Terre, Lowe's and 'Only On Long Island' (OOLI) for their contributions this year. We are grateful for their support in our mission to preserve and restore Long Island's beautiful coastal ecosystems.



Want to support CSLI and show off your Long Island pride at the same time? Check out 'Only On Long Island' (OOLI), a family fun brand that features hand-drawn clothing designs inspired by our beautiful island. OOLI has generously pledged to donate a percentage of their profits to CSLI. Click [here](#) to browse their amazing designs and support CSLI through fashion!



Support CSLI

National Nonprofit Day

National Nonprofit Day is a time to reflect on the impact non-profit organizations have on our communities. Support CSLI in observance of National Nonprofit Day! Join us in making an impact on our community and our environment. Please donate here: <https://www.coastalsteward.org/donate.html>



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