

CONCLUSION

This guidebook has described for you the techniques and resources available to make the most of your waterfront and revitalize your community. We began with a discussion of vision and finished with a guide to project implementation. Each of the sections provided guidance and lessons on how to make opportunities happen.

Communities with a vision succeed. It starts by recognizing that the waterfront belongs to the community. Take a closer look at your community. Local officials, community and neighborhood groups, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector are learning that a revitalized waterfront can create many benefits for their community. A Local Waterfront Revitalization Program is the means for turning community visions into reality. Take it one step at a time - and stay focused on your vision. Patience and persistence pay off.

You can make the most of your waterfront when...

- ✓ You see your waterfront as the way to bring new life and energy to your community.
- ✓ You have generated a sense of community ownership of the waterfront.
- ✓ You know where you want to go.
- ✓ You have created a clearly defined vision for the future of your waterfront.
- ✓ The people who live and work in the community have bought in to your vision.
- ✓ You have begun building a foundation of public support and confidence.
- ✓ You have established partnerships and gained commitments from all stakeholders.

- ✓ You know what you have got to work with.
- ✓ You take advantage of all your resources, assets, and opportunities.
- ✓ You have developed a detailed plan and strategy for implementing your vision.
- ✓ You have the patience and persistence to work through the many phases of waterfront revitalization - one step at a time.



Lake George



Oswego

APPENDIX

Where to find potential partners for waterfront revitalization

Local governments

Local governments - whether county, city, town or village - may have planning, design, engineering and economic development staff, and local committees who can be instrumental in helping you revitalize your waterfront. They can provide local plans and consultant studies, such as appraisals, cost estimates, feasibility studies, market studies, reuse analyses, engineering reports, land use studies, and marketability studies. They can also provide technical assistance at all stages of developing and implementing a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

The **New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials** (www.nycom.org) can provide technical assistance to its members and holds a Main Street conference annually that addresses many issues related to the redevelopment of waterfronts and how they can link to downtowns. The **Association of Towns of the State of New York** (www.nytowns.org) can provide technical assistance to its members and may be able to help with your project. The **New York Association of Counties** (www.nysac.org) provides information on local governments and county links.

Local governments - whether county, city or town - may have an **Industrial Development Agency (IDA)** to help develop the economic environment and support infrastructure in their municipality.

An IDA is a corporate governmental body, constituting a public benefit corporation created pursuant to General Municipal Law, Article 18-A. They are an important financing vehicle. You can contact your municipality's community development or planning office to see if your community has an IDA.

IDAs work to provide appropriate financial incentives and assistance to eligible private-sector businesses to induce the construction, expansion, or equipping of facilities to stimulate capital investment and job creation for a wide range of commercial and industrial projects. Financial assistance may involve issuance of tax-exempt or taxable bonds to cover the costs of construction, rehabilitation, and equipping of a wide range of projects. Further financing benefits that IDAs may offer are sales, mortgage, and real property tax abatements, and lease back agreements. Other types of assistance may include expediting the local development review and permitting process.

Regional organizations

Due in part to the geographic diversity of New York State, there are many regional planning and environmental organizations. The **New York State Association of Regional Councils** (www.dos.state.ny.us/lists/rgcoplan.html) fosters coordination among neighboring communities and provides a regional approach to issues crossing municipal boundaries. The **New York State Metropolitan Planning Organizations** (www.nysmpos.org) provides regional planning

assistance. Other regional groups which can be helpful are **Save the Sound** (www.savethesound.org); the **Peconic Estuary Program** (www.peconicestuary.org); the **Appalachian Regional Commission** (www.arc.gov); the **Adirondack Park Agency** (www.apa.state.ny.us); the **Lake George Watershed Coalition** (www.lakegeorge2000.org/); the **Adirondack North Country Association** (www.adirondack.org); the **Tug Hill Commission** (www.tughill.org); the **Catskill Watershed Corporation** (<http://cwconline.org>); the **Catskill Center** (www.catskillcenter.org); the **Regional Plan Association** (www.rpa.org); the **Great Lakes Commission** (www.glc.org); **Great Lakes United** (www.glu.org); **Rochester Environment** (www.rochesterenvironment.com); **Finger Lakes - Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance** (www.fllowpa.org); and **Scenic Hudson** (www.scenichudson.org).

Nonprofit organizations

There are several nonprofit organizations specializing in waterfront planning and revitalization. The **Waterfront Center** (www.waterfrontcenter.org), the **Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance** (www.waterwire.net), and the **Working Waterfront Association** (www.workingwaterfront.org) are good starting points. The **Glynwood Center** (www.glynwood.org) helps communities to balance economic development and conservation of natural and cultural resources. The **New York Planning Federation**

(www.nypf.org) has information on planning and zoning for local communities.

Another source of assistance is local land trusts. Community-based land trusts are experts at helping interested landowners find ways to protect their land in the face of ever-growing development pressure. The **Land Trust Alliance** provides a full array of advice on land trusts and how they can help communities (www.lta.org). The **Open Space Institute** protects significant recreational, environmental, agricultural, and historic landscapes in New York State (www.osiny.org). The **Trust for Public Land** (www.tpl.org) is another resource for information. Local land trusts in your area should be contacted as well. The **American Farmland Trust** (www.farmland.org) should be contacted if your community has agricultural resources.

Some conservation organizations may be useful in providing information on protecting or restoring natural habitats and river or stream corridors. The **Conservation Foundation** (www.theconservationfoundation.org) provides assistance on land and watershed protection. The **Society of Wetland Scientists** (www.sws.org) provides links to other wetlands organizations. The **National Audubon Society** (www.audubon.org), the **Nature Conservancy** (www.nature.org) and the **Sierra Club** (www.sierraclub.org) are also all good sources of information and assistance.

Resource-specific organizations may be useful. These include the **Association of State**

Floodplain Managers (www.floods.org) and the **Center for Watershed Protection** (www.cwp.org).

Parks, greenways, trails, heritage corridors, and other public spaces are important elements in waterfront planning and implementation. The **Project for Public Spaces** (www.pps.org) is a useful resource. The **Center for Livable Communities** (www.lgc.org/center) and **Partners for Livable Communities** (www.livable.com) provide information on enhancing community quality, and restoring and renewing communities. The **Sustainable Communities Network** (www.sustainable.org) and **Smart Growth** (www.smartgrowth.org) are also good resources.

Community development organizations are also an important potential source of assistance. Resident-led community-based development organizations are instrumental in transforming distressed neighborhoods and communities into healthy places to live and work. Talk to your municipality's planning or community development office to find these organizations.

Your local **Business Improvement District (BID)** may also be in a position to provide redevelopment assistance. A BID is a public/private partnership through which a special assessment is used to finance improvements or services within a designated commercial area, for instance in Albany (www.downtownalbany.org). Frequently, BIDs play a role in boosting local redevelopment efforts.

If your waterfront area contains historic properties, the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** can be an important partner. The Trust is a national nonprofit organization that provides leadership, education, and advocacy to save diverse historic places and revitalize communities in the United States. On its website, the Trust (www.nthp.org) provides details of its programs. It also provides links to other programs that can help with your rehabilitation.

If your waterfront is close to your community's main street or downtown, one important program that can help you understand your role in the revitalization of your community is the **National Main Street Program** (www.mainstreet.org). This program seeks to help communities revitalize their traditional commercial areas, using historic preservation and grassroots-based economic development. It serves as the nation's clearinghouse for information, technical assistance, research, and advocacy on preservation-based commercial district revitalization.

The **Preservation League of New York State** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of New York's diverse and rich heritage of historic buildings, districts, and landscapes. On its website, the Preservation League (www.preservenys.org) provides details of its own small grant program and summaries of other grant programs that deal with the historic preservation aspects of your vision.

Universities

The **Center for Community Design Research** is an outreach program within the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF) Department of Landscape Architecture. The Center works in partnership with communities, elected officials, agencies, and nonprofits to provide technical assistance, educational programs, and research projects that build community capacity to manage sustainable futures. SUNY ESF prepared the SUNY Sourcebook of Community Assistance Programs (www.esf.edu/la/ccdr). The SUNY Sourcebook provides a list of SUNY-wide resources to address your redevelopment issues.

Cornell University through **Cooperative Extension** (www.cce.cornell.edu) and the **Community and Rural Development Institute** (<http://devsoc.cals.cornell.edu/outreach/cardi>) provides assistance to communities on development, environment, and agricultural issues. The Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI) located at Cornell University has partnered with Penn State University to create the Community and Economic Development Toolbox. This website contains a wide variety of resources and information that can strengthen community capacity and provide you with information that will help in your redevelopment project. Pace University's **Land Use Law Center** (www.law.pace.edu/landuse) provides assistance on the development of sustainable communities in New York State. The **Regional Institute** is a unit of the University of

Buffalo Law School, partnering with governments, foundations, businesses, civic groups and nonprofits (www.regional-institute.buffalo.edu).

State and federal agencies

Many New York State agencies provide an array of technical and financial assistance that can support waterfront revitalization from planning through implementation. The **New York State Smart Growth** website (www.SmartGrowthNY.com) is an easy-to-use directory or 'portal' to these State agencies with brief descriptions of services and links to the appropriate agency website pages. Organized by "Quality Communities Principles," the website provides guidance on State agency funding programs that can help you to revitalize your waterfront.

You will find information on economic development; revitalization; transportation and neighborhoods; conservation and environment; planning; technology; and partnerships. Guidance is available here on State agency assistance including grant and financial information, technical assistance, and data and regional inventories.

The federal government offers a range of economic development programs to distressed urban and rural communities for economic renewal. The online **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance** (www.cfda.gov) gives you access to a database of all federal programs available to State and local governments,

domestic public, quasi-public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals. You can search this database to find grant and funding opportunities meeting the requirements for your waterfront project. You can then contact the office that administers the program and find out how to apply. Also available on this site are several aids to guide you in the writing of a proposal to apply for assistance.

The **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** is the source of a wealth of information relevant to waterfront communities and coastal managers. It is through NOAA that many of the nation's coastal management goals are addressed. NOAA works to protect marine fisheries and endangered species, produces charts to aid in air and nautical navigation, and partners with states to protect coastal resources. State and local coastal resource managers are one of NOAA's primary customers, as their programs play an important role in determining the fate of the nation's coastal resources. NOAA's Coastal Services Center maintains information on "Funding Opportunities for Coastal Managers" by compiling information on a variety of federal and other grant programs of interest (www.csc.noaa.gov/funding).

To carry out NOAA's responsibilities under the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Office of Coastal Resources Management works directly with coastal states and territories to support the development of new Coastal Management Programs and National Estuarine Research

Reserves, to provide technical and financial assistance to coastal programs and reserve operations, and to promote coastal stewardship on a variety of critical coastal issues. Such issues include: coastal habitat protection and restoration; coastal hazards; public access to the shore for recreation; sustainable development of coastal communities, including urban waterfronts; and polluted runoff.

NOAA's National Ocean Service (NOS) can provide support and information for coastal management related to coastal and ocean science, management, response, restoration and navigation (www.nos.noaa.gov). Also included in NOS is the Coastal Services Center (www.csc.noaa.gov). The Center serves coastal resource managers and the State coastal programs bringing information, services, and technology to the nation's coastal resource managers.

The Coastal Zone Management Program (www.coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/programs/czm.html) is a federal-state partnership dedicated to comprehensive management of the nation's coastal resources, ensuring their protection for future generations while balancing competing national economic, cultural and environmental interests. It addresses policy issues and provides State coastal management programs with technical and financial assistance in implementing their programs. New York's

partnership with the federal government is managed by the Division of Coastal Resources.

The **Department of State's Division of Coastal Resources** can provide assistance on all aspects of waterfront and community revitalization to help you make the most of what your waterfront has to offer. The Division can provide technical and financial assistance to help communities expand public access, reinvigorate urban waterfronts, restore habitats, protect scenic resources, preserve historic resources, manage water uses, improve water quality, protect against flooding and erosion, and strengthen local economies (www.nyswaterfronts.com). The Division of Coastal Resources is the first place to contact if you are interested in revitalizing your waterfront.

The Division of Coastal Resources can help you develop partnerships with other state and federal agencies who can provide the specific information as well as technical and funding assistance - from planning through implementation.

The following summary covers some of the main State and federal agencies that you might turn to for help, organized by topic area to enable a quick search and fast results, from these links you will be able to navigate the Internet to find many other sources of information.

The Developed Waterfront Land use and development

New York State

The **Department of State's Division of Local Government** can provide training assistance to municipalities related to zoning procedures in addition to other practical legal and technical advice (www.dos.state.ny.us/lgss).

The **Adirondack Park Agency** can provide assistance related to land use management within the boundary of the Park (www.apa.state.ny.us/About_Agency).

If you are located on the Hudson River, you may be able to seek funding from the **Hudson River Valley Greenway**. The Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council provides community planning grants and technical assistance through the "Greenway Communities Grant Program" and the "Greenway Compact Grant Program." These programs help eligible communities develop and achieve a vision for their future and assists in the development of the Greenway Compact, a regional planning strategy for the Hudson River Valley (www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us).

Empire State Development (ESD) can provide assistance on economic development issues (www.nylovesbiz.com/default.asp).

Empire Zones are designated areas throughout the State that offer significant incentives to encourage economic development, business investment and job creation (www.nylovesbiz.com/Tax_and_Financial_Incentives/Empire_Zones).

For economic development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization and economic development, **New York State's Office of Community Renewal** may also be an important partner (www.nysocr.org). The Office administers the Community Development Block Grant Program for the State of New York which provides grants to eligible cities, towns, and villages with a population under 50,000 and to counties with an area population under 200,000 in order to revitalize neighborhoods, expand affordable housing and economic opportunities, and/or improve community facilities and services.

Department of Transportation (DOT) can provide assistance related to promoting economic growth by planning, coordinating, and implementing strategies to improve the State's transportation network (www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/divisions/policy-and-strategy). The Environmental Analysis Bureau of DOT works in partnership with regional environmental personnel to promote safe, effective, balanced, and environmentally sound transportation services (www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/divisions/engineering/environmental-analysis).

The **Environmental Facilities Corporation** can provide public and private entities with assistance in complying with federal and State environmental requirements (www.nysefc.org).

The **New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)** is a public benefit corporation created in 1975 by the New York State Legislature and provides a wide variety of funding opportunities (www.nyserda.org/funding) in support of their programs ranging from agricultural innovation, environmental protection, community revitalization, and alternative transportation. NYSEDA administers the New York Energy SmartSM Program (www.nyserda.org/programs).

The **Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR)** is responsible for the supervision, maintenance and development of affordable low and moderate income housing in New York State. DHCR has a number of capital programs with funding available for the development of affordable housing in New York State, including the Housing Trust Fund (HTF), the HOME Program, New York State Housing Finance Agency (HFA), Homes for Working Families (HWF), Senior Housing Initiative (SHI), Housing Development Funds (HDF), Low Income Housing Credit Program (LIHC), and HouseNY (www.nysdhcr.gov).

The **New York State Canal Corporation** (www.nyscanals.gov/welcome) actively seeks individuals and businesses interested in playing a role in the economic revitalization of the NYS Canal System. The Canal Corporation created the Canal Revitalization Program to foster economic development in municipalities along the Canal, and provides information about a wide variety of State and federal grants and direct assistance programs for Canal development strategies (www.nyscanals.gov/corporation/community.html).

Federal

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) can provide assistance on a range of economic development and community renewal programs (www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/economicdevelopment/programs/index.cfm).

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Green Communities Program can provide assistance on sustainable community development (www.epa.gov/greenkit).

U.S. Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment can provide assistance to communities adversely impacted by significant Defense program changes (www.oea.gov/OEAWeb.nsf/Home?OpenForm).

The **National Park Service** Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program helps communities work together to improve their special places (www.nps.gov/phso/rtcatoolbox).

U.S. Department of Energy Smart Communities Network can provide key planning principles as well as resources for strategies, tools, and civic participation to help your community with sustainable land use planning (www.smartcommunities.ncat.org/landuse/luintro.shtml).

The **Transportation Planning Capacity Building Program (TPCB)** is a collaborative effort of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as well as various other public and private

organizations, to help state and local transportation staff meet complex political, social, economic, and environmental demands. The program can provide information, training, and technical assistance related to local transportation systems (www.planning.dot.gov/default.asp).

Abandoned sites and buildings

New York State

If you have identified abandoned buildings in your community, the **Division of Coastal Resources'** guidebook "Opportunities Waiting to Happen: Redeveloping Abandoned Buildings and Sites to Revitalize Communities" can help you. This guidebook describes the development process, techniques and resources available to redevelop abandoned buildings. It begins with developing a vision for your building and finishes with a step-by-step guide to project implementation. Each of the sections provides guidance and lessons on how to make opportunities happen. Contact the Division of Coastal Resources at (518) 474-6000 if you would like a copy, or visit www.nyswaterfronts.com/communities_guidebook_ab.asp.

If your waterfront project is going to involve environmental remediation, you will want to review the **Department of Environmental Conservation's** brownfields manual. This provides assistance to municipalities and the private sector in the redevelopment of brownfield sites in New York State (www.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/brownmanual.pdf).

The manual outlines State, federal, and private funding and financial incentives, as well as technical assistance and liability protection available for the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfield sites. Funding is available for environmental restoration, with grant assistance covering up to 90 percent of the cost of investigating and cleaning up contamination at abandoned sites (brownfields) that are municipally owned. These properties may then be marketed by the municipality for redevelopment or used by the municipality for a variety of activities including industrial, commercial, or public use. For more information on the New York State brownfields program contact the Division of Environmental Remediation staff at (518) 402-9711. You may also want to visit the brownfields web page at: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/brownfields.html.

The Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program, administered by the **Division of Coastal Resources** in cooperation with the **Department of Environmental Conservation**, helps communities and qualified community-based organizations to complete area-wide approaches to brownfields redevelopment planning. Through the Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program, communities can address a range of problems posed by multiple brownfield sites and to establish the multi-agency and private-sector partnerships necessary to leverage assistance and investments to revitalize communities by returning idle areas back to productive use and restoring environmental quality (www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8447.html).

Federal

The **U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)** Brownfields Program (www.epa.gov/brownfields) provides assistance to link environmental protection with economic and community revitalization. USEPA also participates in the Brownfields Environmental Development Initiative (BEDI) (www.hud.gov/nofa/suprnofa/suprnofa2/bedi.cfm) in partnership with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Historic resources

New York State

The Historic Preservation Office of the **New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation** can help you understand the historic value of your waterfront and what you need to do to protect it (www.nysparks.state.ny.us/shpo/planning). If your waterfront project includes a historic property, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation may be able to help with funding for protection and improvements (www.nysparks.state.ny.us/grants). Through the Environmental Protection Fund, and in some cases in partnership with federal grant programs, grant assistance is provided to municipalities (including State agencies) and nonprofit organizations. Grant assistance is available through the Historic Preservation Program for the acquisition and/or rehabilitation of properties listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places. The Heritage Areas Program

provides funds for facilities, exhibits, and programs in legislatively designated Heritage Area (www.nysparks.state.ny.us/heritage/herit_area.asp).

The **New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)** is a State funding agency that can provide support for activities of nonprofit arts and cultural organizations (www.nysca.org).

Federal

The **National Park Service's Heritage Preservation Services** (www.nps.gov/history/hps) helps individuals and communities identify, evaluate, protect, and preserve historic properties for future generations. It provides a broad range of products and services, financial assistance and incentives, educational guidance, and technical information in support of this mission. If you're working with a historic building, Heritage Preservation Services will be able to help with almost every aspect of your project, from planning and evaluation to repair and rehabilitation. The National Park Service administers grant programs focused on cultural resources and historic preservation (www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg), including the Land and Water Conservation Fund, managed in New York by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, which is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities, and stimulate non-federal investments in recreation resources (www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/lwcf).

The National Park Service manages the "National Heritage Area" program. These areas are places designated by the United States Congress where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. Congress has established 40 National Heritage Areas around the country in which conservation, interpretation, and other activities are managed by partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and the private sector. A "management entity" is named by Congress to coordinate the partners' voluntary actions. This management entity might be a local governmental agency, nonprofit organization, or an independent federal commission. The National Park Service provides technical assistance as well as financial assistance for a limited number of years following designation (www.nps.gov/history/heritageareas). Three areas have been established in New York State - the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area (www.nps.gov/nifa), the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor (www.nps.gov/erie) and the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (www.nps.gov/hurv).

The **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation** can provide assistance related to the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our nation's historic resources (www.achp.gov).

Scenic resources

New York State

The **Department of Transportation (DOT)** can provide assistance related to State Scenic Byways (www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/programs/scenic-byways).

The **Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)** can provide assistance related to the protection of historic landscapes (www.nysparks.state.ny.us).

Federal

The **U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration** can provide assistance with the federal Scenic Byways Program (www.byways.org).

The Natural Waterfront Flooding and erosion

New York State

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Division of Water, Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety is the State's point-of-contact with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for shore protection, and includes the designated State Floodplain Manager (www.dec.ny.gov/lands/311.html). The Bureau addresses coastal storm impacts, flooding, and erosion, and manages the State's Coastal Erosion Hazard Areas and program.

The **State Emergency Management Office (SEMO)** organizes disaster response, emergency preparedness, and hazard mitigation for New York State (www.semo.state.ny.us). SEMO is the primary contact for municipalities working with FEMA. SEMO prepares the State Hazard Mitigation Plan and manages FEMA grants for local hazard mitigation plans.

Federal

The **NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC)** serves coastal resource managers and the state coastal programs. The mission of the CSC is to support the environmental, social, and economic well being of the coast by linking people, information, and technology (www.csc.noaa.gov). The **National Data Buoy Center** provides near-realtime wave and meteorological information from buoys located in the Atlantic Ocean, Long

Island Sound, and the Great Lakes (www.ndbc.noaa.gov). Additional coastal observations and forecasts can be found at: www.nowcoast.noaa.gov.

Information on present and future tides and currents can be found at the **National Ocean Service** website (www.nos.noaa.gov), along with other coastal information.

The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, part of the **Department of Homeland Security**, is a primary source of federal assistance in the event of a disaster. FEMA administers several programs to reduce hazard risk, including the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program which provides funding for preparation of State Hazard Mitigation Plans. FEMA also awards Hazard Mitigation Grants, which provide partial funding in support of projects that reduce potential future damages. FEMA also coordinates hazard mitigation loans from the Federal Small Business Administration (www.fema.gov).

The **FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** (www.fema.gov/business/nfip) enables property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding, if a floodplain management ordinance in identified flood risk areas is adopted and enforced. FEMA has also developed the Community Rating System (CRS) (www.fema.gov/business/nfip/crs.shtm) to correlate community standards for reducing flood risks with rates for flood insurance, and help communities reduce insurance premiums.

The **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)** has long been a source of assistance for shore protection information and project funding, and has a special interest in maintenance of federal navigation projects. The USACE can provide assistance related to shore protection, project funding, and maintenance of federal navigation projects (www.usace.army.mil/public.html).

The USACE, New York District, (www.nan.usace.army.mil/index.htm) operates gauges to monitor sea and shore conditions in the Long Island region (www.lishore.org). In addition, the USACE Coastal Hydraulics Laboratory is an excellent source for information related to coastal engineering (<http://chl.erdc.usace.army.mil>).

The USACE Detroit District maintains information and forecasts water levels in the Great Lakes (www.lre.usace.army.mil/index.cfm?chn_id=1400) for weekly levels or for monthly levels (www.lre.usace.army.mil/index.cfm?chn_id=1450).

Since 1995, the **Atlantic Coast of New York Monitoring Program (ACNYMP)**, a cooperative effort of the NYS DOS, USACE New York District and New York Sea Grant, has collected data on beach changes and coastal processes along the 135 mile shoreline from Coney Island to Montauk Point, to inform coastal managers, regulators, government officials and the public. (<http://dune.seagrant.sunysb.edu/nycoast>).

The **International Joint Commission (IJC)** is studying options for regulating water levels on

the Great Lakes. A number of investigations have been completed including benefits and impacts of current regulations and potential results from several alternative plans. The IJC will present its findings for public review prior to selecting a preferred regulation plan. Information about the current status of the study can be found at: www.losl.org/about/about-e.html.

The **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** can provide information related to hazards reduction including dredged material management and smart growth (www.epa.gov/owow/oceans).

The **USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program**, with offices in Menlo Park/Santa Cruz, California, St. Petersburg, Florida and Woods Hole, Massachusetts, maintains a research program on issues of coastal erosion, sea level rise, and storm impacts. Information on these topics and others can be downloaded (<http://marine.usgs.gov>).

Water quality

New York State

Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) can provide assistance with conserving, improving, and protecting natural resources and the environment, and controlling water, land, and air pollution (www.dec.ny.gov). Of interest to waterfront communities are the funds for protecting clean water. A variety of funds are

available for municipal wastewater treatment improvement, pollution prevention, and agricultural and non-agricultural nonpoint source abatement and control. Significant support is available to acquire open space that protects water resources, and to acquire public parklands and protect farmland. Funding is also available to help small businesses protect the environment and to address flood control for small municipalities and improve the safety of dams throughout New York (www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/grants.html).

The Stormwater Phase II Program (www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8468.html) requires permits for stormwater discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) in urbanized areas and for construction activities that would disturb one or more acres.

The **Environmental Facilities Corporation's (EFC)** mission is to promote environmental quality by providing low-cost capital and expert technical assistance to municipalities, businesses, and State agencies for environmental projects in New York State. Its purpose is to help public and private entities comply with federal and State environmental requirements (www.nysefc.org). EFC's primary activities are the State Revolving Funds (SRF), the Industrial Finance Program (IFP), and Technical Advisory Services (TAS). EFC also administers the NYS Clean Vessel Assistance Program to increase the availability, public awareness, and public use of pumpout stations

for marine recreational vessels (www.nysefc.org/home/index.asp?page=21).

The **Department of Transportation** funds and implements environmental benefit projects that improve water quality, restore wetlands, promote eco-tourism, protect fish and wildlife, and enhance transportation corridors through its Environmental Initiative (www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/divisions/engineering/environmental-analysis/environmental-initiative)

Federal

In 1990, Congress established a new program requiring coastal states such as New York to prepare a coastal nonpoint pollution control program to implement a series of management measures (www.epa.gov/owow/nps/MMGI).

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) can provide information on water quality programs and assistance with planning and managing watersheds, water quality, and wetlands (www.epa.gov/water).

Natural resources

New York State

The **Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)** (www.dec.ny.gov) administers a wide variety of programs and activities designed to conserve, improve, and protect the State's natural resources and environment, and control water, land, and air pollution. Natural resource related activities

include fish and wildlife management and permit programs under the Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources (www.dec.ny.gov/about/634.html); water quality permitting and watershed planning and protection under the Division of Water (www.dec.ny.gov/about/661.html); and acquisition and management of public lands and outdoor recreation under the Division of Lands and Forests (www.dec.ny.gov/about/650.html).

The Hudson River Estuary Program is a unique regional partnership designed to protect, conserve, restore, and enhance the estuary (www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920.html). The heart of the Hudson River Estuary Program is the Hudson River Estuary Action Plan (www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5106.html), a set of twenty commitments intended to protect and conserve the estuary's natural resources and ecosystem health, clean up pollution and other impairments, and promote public use and enjoyment of the river. Grants are available from the Environmental Protection Fund to help communities implement the action plan and protect and enhance the Hudson River Estuary.

The Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve (www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4915.html), established in 1982, protects four exemplary wetland sites on the estuary. Spaced along the river from the brackish Tappan Zee to tidal freshwater shallows north of the City of Hudson, these sites provide ideal settings for education and comparative research. The reserve is managed in partnership by NYS DEC, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (<http://nerrs.noaa.gov/HudsonRiver>).

The **Sea Grant Program** encourages the wise stewardship of marine resources through research, education, outreach, and technology transfer. Sea Grant can provide assistance with research, education, and outreach on coastal issues ranging from fisheries, environmental quality, coastal processes, and development. A cooperative program of SUNY Stony Brook and Cornell University, New York Sea Grant (www.seagrantsunysb.edu) has 10 offices throughout the State that work with partners "bringing science to the shore" (www.seagrantsunysb.edu/NYSMap).

Federal

The **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** (www.noaa.gov) conducts a wide array of research, mapping, and management programs related to weather, oceans (www.noaa.gov/ocean.html), remote sensing, fisheries (www.noaa.gov/fisheries.html), climate, and coastal resources (www.noaa.gov/coasts.html). The agency is responsible for the nation's marine and anadromous protected species (www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr). NOAA's Restoration Center (www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration) also sponsors a number of useful funding programs fostering community-based fisheries restoration.

The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** (www.fws.gov) administers most of the nation's fish and wildlife management programs, including terrestrial and freshwater endangered species protection (www.fws.gov/endangered) and migratory bird management. USFWS

manages public lands and outdoor recreation (www.recreation.gov) as part of the National Wildlife Refuge system (www.fws.gov/refuges). USFWS also offers several funding programs (www.fws.gov/grants), including Coastal Wetland Conservation Grants and North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grants.

The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)** (www.epa.gov) works to protect environmental quality through a variety of air, water, pollution, and toxics and chemicals management programs. The agency works along waterfronts primarily through its Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds (www.epa.gov/owow). USEPA also administers the National Estuary Program (www.epa.gov/owow/estuaries), which includes three estuaries in New York: New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program (www.harborestuary.org), Long Island Sound Study (www.longislandsoundstudy.net), and Peconic Estuary Program (www.peconicestuary.org).

The Public Waterfront *Waterfront access and recreation*

New York State

If your waterfront project includes park acquisition, park development, or trail development, the **New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation** may be able to help (www.nysparks.state.ny.us/grants). Through the Environmental Protection Fund and, in some cases in partnership with federal grant programs, grant assistance is provided to municipalities (including State

agencies) and nonprofit organizations.

- The Parks Program can be used to acquire and/or develop parks and recreational facilities and for the protection of open space.
- The Acquisition Program for all three program areas for projects where acquisition is of more importance than development.
- The Recreational Trails Program for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of trails and trail-related projects.

The Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley provides grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations. The projects grants program provides funding for trail planning, construction and amenities, historic landscape preservation, and regional and local partnerships as well as many other resource enhancement and economic development projects (www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us/funding/funding.htm).

The Hudson River Valley Greenway is establishing a Hudson River Water Trail stretching from Battery Park in the Village of Waterford, Saratoga County, to Battery Park in Manhattan. The trail will provide access for kayaks, canoes, and small boats along 156 miles of the river. As part of the “Hudson River Greenway Water Trail Program” the **Greenway Communities Council** provides financial and technical assistance to site owners to help complete the Hudson River Water Trail. Launch and campsites owners located along the Hudson River and within the designated Greenway Area and who are, or

wish to become, a part of the water trail system are eligible to participate in the program. Site owners can undertake a variety of projects under this program (www.hudsongreenway.state.ny.us/commcoun/Greenway%20Community%20Grant%20Application.pdf).

Federal

The **National Park Service** Land and Water Conservation Fund Program can provide funding assistance for the acquisition, development, and/or rehabilitation of outdoor park and recreation facilities. Funds are available to municipal public agencies and Indian tribal governments (www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/lwcf).

The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program can provide assistance to conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways (www.nps.gov/rtca).

The National Park Service Federal Lands to Parks Program helps communities create new parks and recreation areas by transferring surplus federal land to State and local governments (www.nps.gov/flp).

The Working Waterfront Harbor management planning

New York State

The **Office of General Services (OGS)**, Real Property Management and Development, can provide assistance related to grants or other conveyances of State interests in land under water, and the construction of commercial docks,

wharves, moorings, and permanent structures in State-owned underwater lands (www.ogs.state.ny.us/RealEstate/permits).

The **Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)** can provide information regarding wetlands, protected species, water quality classifications, and State environmental regulations that may apply to your harbor and its existing or proposed uses (www.dec.ny.gov).

The **Department of Transportation (DOT)** can provide information about transportation infrastructure, including roadways, bridges, and bicycle and pedestrian paths, ferries and public transportation, in your harbor area (www.nysdot.gov).

The **Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)** can assist in identifying historic underwater sites or structures, such as shipwrecks or archaeological sites. The Division of Marine and Recreational Vehicles can provide information regarding State reimbursements for some municipal navigation law enforcement expenses. OPRHP may also be a waterfront landowner in your community, managing recreational activities and access to the harbor (www.nysparks.state.ny.us).

Federal

The **U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)** is a critical partner in harbor management with information about marine safety, security and environmental protection (www.uscg.mil). USCG approves aids to navigation and regulatory markers such as buoys, and approves certain anchorage and mooring areas.

USCG sponsors local Harbor Safety Committees as part of the federal interagency Marine Transportation System.

The **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** can provide harbor managers with a variety of charting and navigation tools and information (www.noaa.gov/charts.html). NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service has information about Essential Fish Habitats, marine and anadromous protected species, and commercial and recreational fisheries in your area (www.nmfs.noaa.gov).

The **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)** can identify federally maintained navigation channels and other federal projects, such as breakwaters, and provide information and regulatory guidance on dredging and dredged material disposal, flood protection, wetlands, and waterways (www.usace.army.mil). New York's coastal areas and inland waterways are covered primarily by the New York District (www.nan.usace.army.mil) and the Buffalo District (www.lrb.usace.army.mil).

The **U.S. Department of Interior** (www.doi.gov) includes both the **National Park Service (NPS)** (www.nps.gov) and the **Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** (www.fws.gov), both providing valuable information for harbor management planning. NPS is a good source for cultural resources information (www.nps.gov/history). It has a submerged resources center (<http://home.nps.gov/applications/submerged>), and may own or manage a National Park, Seashore, or Monument in your harbor area. USFWS can provide endangered species consultation, habitat

assessment and restoration assistance (www.fws.gov/habitat), technical input in evaluating impacts to fish and wildlife, and may own or manage a National Wildlife Refuge in your area.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) can provide information on air and water quality programs and regulations related to the discharge of wastes from boats and marinas (www.epa.gov/owow/nps/marinas.html), beach closures and monitoring (www.epa.gov/waterscience/beaches), and assistance with planning and managing watersheds, water quality, and wetlands (www.epa.gov/water).

Agriculture

New York State

The **Department of Agriculture and Markets** administers several funding programs including the New York State Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (ANSCAP), the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Implementation Project Program, and the Farmland Viability Program (www.agmkt.state.ny.us).

Federal

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment**, can provide assistance with rural development and help communities with natural resource concerns, such as erosion control, watershed protection, and forestry (www.ers.usda.gov/Browse/NaturalResourcesEnvironment).



Montauk Point Lighthouse

