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What's Next?

Getting to 58.5% reductions:

- Ensure New York City completes its “Phase II” nitrogen reduction upgrades by 2016 and is hitting the targets in 2017.
- Monitor Westchester County progress, particularly in New Rochelle and Port Chester.
- Tackle stormwater and illegal water hook-ups that can overload county sewer systems.
- Advocate for increased state funding for sewage infrastructure.

Achieving a 58.5% reduction in nitrogen pollution from sewage treatment plants is an important first step to a healthier Sound. But scientists, along with New York, Connecticut, and the EPA, knew 15 years ago that those reductions couldn't get the whole job done on their own. To restore the Sound's fish, clean our water, and heal the Sound's low oxygen dead zone, further action is needed.

Beyond sewage treatment plant upgrades:

- We need to set additional nitrogen reduction targets to heal the Sound.
- Nitrogen removal treatment must be instituted at the 30 Massachusetts plants that dump into rivers that run to the Sound.
- Sewage pipes are deteriorating around our shore communities; fixing these pipes will make our beaches safe for swimming, clean our water, and reduce nitrogen pollution.
- Polluted runoff from urban and suburban streets and over-fertilized lawns must be captured and treated in rain gardens.
- And we can harness nature—by growing and harvesting more oysters, clams, mussels and seaweed—to naturally remove nitrogen.

What Can YOU Do?

- Advocate: Contact your local elected officials and tell them you support investment in the sewage infrastructure that will protect Long Island Sound.
- Keep stormwater separate: Never hook your storm gutters up to sewers, and report illegal storm drain hookups to New York Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Keep a Sound-friendly yard: Test soil to apply the right type and amount of fertilizer, and fertilize your lawn naturally with organic fertilizer, compost, or grass clippings.
- Join our Pollution Patrol: Help us monitor water quality and spot sewage leaks.
- Learn more: Visit our website and sign up for action alerts.



www.savethesound.org



A Safe and Healthy Sound

The Report Card for New York's
Long Island Sound Sewage Treatment Plants

Good News!

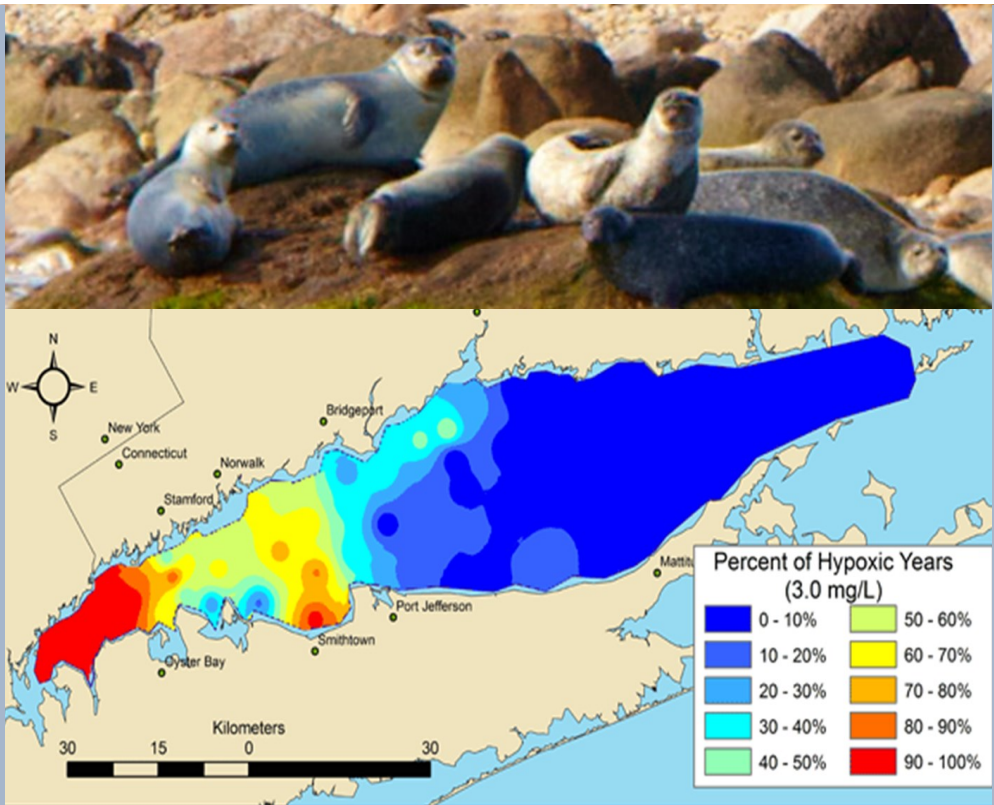
Healing the Sound's Dead Zone: Are New York's Sewage Treatment Plants Making the Grade?

Every summer, fish and wildlife in the western Long Island Sound suffer from a large low oxygen “dead zone.” What’s the first big step toward clearer water, more fish, and a healed dead zone? Cutting down on the tons of nitrogen that sewage treatment plants dump into the Sound.

Fifteen years ago the region took action to reduce nitrogen, the nutrient pollution that causes the low oxygen dead zone. New York, Connecticut, and the US Environmental Protection Agency required sewage treatment plants around the Sound to reduce nitrogen pollution by 58.5%. With only a little time remaining on the clock, Save the Sound decided it was time for a progress report.

The good news is that the Connecticut sewage treatment plants collectively met this reduction target last year. This report reviews progress at 19 sewage treatment plants in New York. The results are positive: many of the plants are already meeting their nitrogen reduction goals, and many more are under construction. But we must continue to watch Westchester and New York City as they near critical decision points in the next two years.

For an interactive map of these sewage treatment plants, details about hypoxia, and information about other water quality issues facing Long Island Sound, visit www.savethesound.org.



What does it mean?

% = Percent of nitrogen removed by the plant since 1990 base levels

A = Complied with the 58.5% reduction mandate on time (2014)

B = Upgrades partially completed; on track to comply with 58.5% reduction mandate within the permitted timeframe

At Risk = Additional upgrades may still be needed to comply with the 58.5% reduction by 2017, and timelines are tight

= Nitrogen impact on Long Island Sound; the darker the blue, the greater the impact

New York City

Bowery Bay: 24%
Hunts Point: 61%
Tallman Island: increase
Wards Island: 47%
Red Hook: 32%*
Newtown Creek: 34%*

*no nitrogen upgrades currently required

B (at risk)

Westchester County

Blind Brook: 39%
Mamaroneck: 48%
Port Chester: increase
New Rochelle: increase

B (at risk)

Connecticut

After investing over a billion dollars in sewage treatment plant upgrades, Connecticut is currently meeting its 2014 TMDL limits.

A

Nassau County

Great Neck District: 77%
Glen Cove: 80%
Belgrave: 59%
Village of Great Neck: closing
Oyster Bay: 75%
Port Washington: 79%

A

Suffolk County

SUNY: 70%
Port Jefferson: 87%
Huntington: 76%
Kings Park: 90%
Northport: 67%
Greenport: 83%

A