



SUMMER DAYS

Summer @ SoundWaters

October 2017



SoundWaters sailors tackle challenges and work as a team. Healthy and outdoors: with not a phone or x-box in sight!

We teach year-round at SoundWaters, but things really heat up in the summer. Coordinating two coastal sites, our schooner, fleet of over 60 small boats and two large events is hectic and exciting and we embrace it fully because this is how we connect thousands of children and adults to Long Island Sound in fun and meaningful ways.

Long Island Sound is alive 12 months a year, but often overlooked. We know that people protect the places they care about. This makes summer a spectacular opportunity for people to make enduring connections to the natural world through our programs and events. Our planet is mostly water– SoundWaters invites people to jump in!!



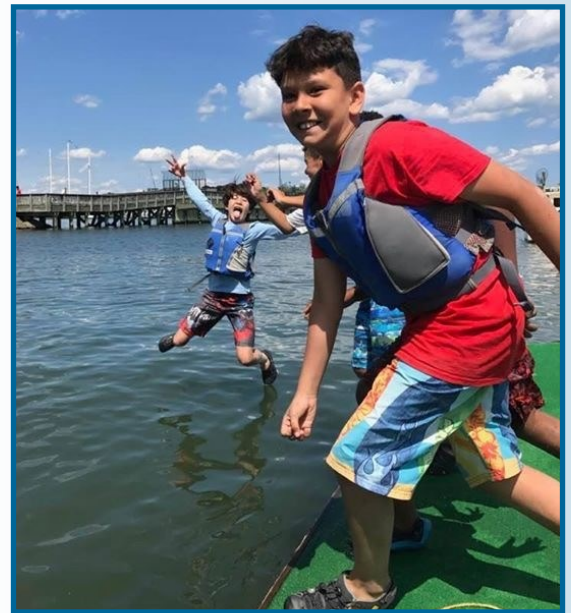
Sinking in Style: Over 6,500 people cheered the dramatic cardboard kayak race at HarborFest.

JUMP IN

SoundWaters students gain experience, skills, confidence and leadership.

"My son loved it so much! He is more confident when it comes to swimming. I was very proud of my son to see him sailing all by himself! Thanks to all the amazing instructors and everyone else that helped the children as well. Because of this program my son was able to learn important and fun stuff."

Michael, Young Mariners Academy Parent



Science is about observations:
Studying micro plastics (right)
and plankton (left).



"Learning about plankton is so cool. When I grow up I want to be a scientist."

Alexis, Camper



Tacking in Stamford Harbor.

"In the 5 years I was a camper and intern I grew as a person and gained a love for the sea and sailing. Without these programs I would not be the person that I am now. I have struggled with learning challenges and being part of these programs has helped me overcome some of my challenges and given me the confidence to pursue additional opportunities."

Nicholas
Former Young Mariners Camper & Intern
Current Camp SoundWaters Counselor

Crab population study in the Rocky Intertidal Zone.



"Thank you for providing an amazing experience for the kids - it has been fun to hear Claire enthusiastically describe each day... We plan to be back next year - She can't wait to go sailing every day as a Terrapin."

Jennifer, Camp Parent



"The best part of my summer was sailing, swimming and making new friends"

Marco, Young Mariners Student

IMPACT

Our summer programs have an impact on students, the community and the Sound.



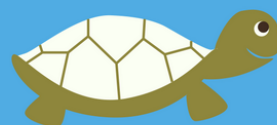
Donor support made it possible for **586** children to have an unforgettable summer.



189 paddlers, volunteers, and donors participated the first annual SoundWaters Flotilla.



336 volunteers helped out with various tasks this summer.



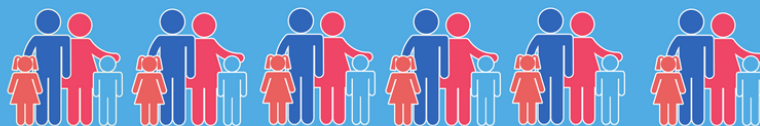
Young Mariners Academy 6th graders increased science knowledge by **27%**.



Young Mariners Academy 7th graders gained **26%** in math ability.



Young Mariners Academy 9th graders improved **31%** in science capacity.



Over **6,500** people joined us at HarborFest.



Young Mariners Academy 8th graders increased in social studies understanding by **35%**.



3,456 people of all ages experienced Long Island Sound in a SoundWaters boat this summer.

GET INVOLVED

SoundWaters offers many ways for people of all ages to connect with Long Island Sound in a meaningful way.



Talk about a movement to protect Long Island Sound! 52 paddlers set off from the beach at Cove Island and paddled 4 miles to Boccuzzi Park on the west side of Stamford. They ended with a great party to celebrate their accomplishments. Save the date for Flotilla 18: July 14, 2018.

STAMFORD ADVOCATE

WWW.STAMFORDADVOCATE.COM | Tuesday, July 25, 2017 | Since 1829 | \$2.00



Bob Luckey Jr. / Hearst Connecticut Media



HarborFest Cardboard Kayak Race spectators.



Over 6,500 visitors flocked to the Harbor Point Waterfront to enjoy historic tours of Stamford Harbor, mini golf, kids boat building, marine animals, dockside boat tours and of course, the Cardboard Kayak Race for the Mayor's Trophy! The day ended with a fantastic fireworks show over Stamford Harbor. Save the date for HarborFest18: August 25, 2018.

SAVE THE DATES

Coastal Cleanup : October 15, 2017

Annual Meeting: November 14, 2017

Tall Ships Ball: May 4, 2018

Flotilla: July 14, 2018

HarborFest: August 25, 2018



HarborFest Commodore Ray Redniss and Stamford Mayor David Martin with the Cardboard Kayak Race winners (left) and Cardboard Kayak Race participants (right).



Learn more about all of our programs
at soundwaters.org

