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For Immediate Release

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HarborFest Set for Saturday, August 25

Waterfront Events & Activities for All Ages at Harbor Point

Featuring the Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race



Stamford, CT – SoundWaters HarborFest, a day of fun and exciting activities for all ages, will take place on Saturday, August 25 from 10am – 6pm on the boardwalk at the Harbor Point Waterfront at 2200 Atlantic Street in Stamford. There is plenty of free parking in the Harbor Point garages and parking lots.

Can You Build a Kayak out of Cardboard? **Enter the Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race.**

The featured event of HarborFest is the **Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race**. Teams will receive sheets of cardboard and rolls of tape and have two hours to build a two-person kayak. Two members of the team will then race their kayak on the Harbor in front of hundreds of cheering spectators. The race is great for friends, company or family teams. There are still spots available so learn more and register at SoundWatersHarborFest.org. Registration costs \$100 per team, but is free for student teams.

What Can You Do at HarborFest?

Try Scuba Diving

Want to try scuba diving? We'll have all the equipment and the experts to show you how. Dive in the crystal clear Go Dive Now pool at HarborFest. The pool comes with dressing rooms and diving equipment, including wetsuits and fins for all ages. So bring your bathing suit when you come to HarborFest. Minimum age for diving is 10 and divers 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult also trying scuba. The Go Dive Now pool is free and will be open on Friday, August 25 from noon – 4pm and during HarborFest on Saturday from 10am - 6pm.



Harbor History Boat Tours

Enjoy a leisurely 45 minute boat tour of Stamford Harbor and learn all about its colorful history since 1642. Led by the Stamford Historical Society and Stamford Yacht Club, tours will depart the HarborFest dock at 10:15am, 11:15am, 12:15pm and 1:15pm. Tickets cost only \$5 ea., but seating is limited and tickets must be purchased on-site at a HarborFest Information Tent. Please, no children under 5 years. The Harbor History Tours are sponsored by O&G Industries.

Harbor Boat Rides on the Schooner SoundWaters

See the Stamford skyline like never before: from the deck of an 80-foot ship. Come aboard the Schooner SoundWaters as it cruises past the beautiful homes and landmarks of Stamford Harbor. Bring your camera and enjoy the ride! Tickets cost only \$5ea for the 45 minute ride, but must be purchased on-site at a HarborFest Information Tent. Rides depart at 11:00am, 12:30pm & 2:00pm. Please, no children under 5 years. The Harbor Boat Rides are sponsored by ShopRite.

Play a Round on the HarborFest Seaside Golf Links

HarborFest is bringing golf to Stamford Harbor! Constructed just for HarborFest, the 18-hole layout will wind its way through the Harbor Point waterfront bringing lighthouses, wishing wells, windmills and loop de loops into play. The course is designed for putters of all ages and skill levels to enjoy a challenging and fun game. A round on Stamford's only waterfront golf course costs just \$2 per person.

Children's Boat Building

Not yet old enough to build a cardboard kayak? Even young children can have fun building a small boat at HarborFest. Children will get materials and instructions to build and decorate a sturdy, small wooden sailboat that they can take home as their HarborFest souvenir. Boat building is free and will continue while supplies last so arrive early.

Or just Paint a Picture of Boats, sponsored by Pinot's Palette

If you're more of the artistic type, you will enjoy the Pinot Palette's waterfront studio where you'll get inspiration from the many harbor scenes. For \$10, Pinot's Palette will provide you with a 10"x10" canvas and all the painting supplies and tips you'll need to create your marine masterpiece. This is an ideal activity for all ages.



Touch-A-Boat

Visit and learn about all the important boats that work on Stamford Harbor.

- <u>US Coast Guard</u> Learn from the officers and watch demonstrations of water rescues and Coast Guard technology
- <u>Stamford Fire Boat</u> This boat has all the cool rescue equipment and fire hoses needed to keep people safe on the water
- <u>Stamford Marine Police</u> The police are on the water every day. Come meet them and learn how they protect us on the Harbor and Long Island Sound.
- <u>Stella Mar Oyster Boat</u> What's it like to be an oysterman? Tour a working oyster boat and learn how the oysters we eat are grown and harvested right in Stamford waters.
- <u>Schooner SoundWaters</u> Come tour the "floating classroom of Long Island Sound," a beautiful three masted schooner that sails daily out of Stamford Harbor

Touch-A-Truck

Come visit the big trucks! Cement mixers, fire trucks, police vehicles and more. Come and crawl all over them, blow the horns, pretend you're driving and don't forget your camera.

Enjoy The Oyster Lounge

Relax and enjoy fresh oysters all afternoon along the water. Stamford's own Stella Mar Oyster Company will provide the oysters and beer, wine and vodka samples will be offered.

Enjoy Live Music from the HarborFest Stage

10:30am: Silver Steel steel drum band

1:00pm: School of Rock

4:00pm: Charlie Scopoletti & The Truth

"Under The Sea" Dog Costume Parade

HarborFest is a pet-friendly event and all types and sizes of dogs are welcome to dress up in their best fish costume and parade down the boardwalk in the dog costume parade. Spot On Veterinary Hospital will be judging the best costumes and awarding fun prizes.

Long Island Sound Sunset Sail on the Schooner SoundWaters

The Schooner SoundWaters will sail with leave the HarborFest dock at 6:00pm for a beautiful and romantic sunset sail on Long Island Sound. The sail will sell out quickly so purchase your tickets in advance at <u>SoundWaters.org/sails</u>.

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Tour the HarborFest Village

Dozens of the area's unique and innovative merchants will be on the HarborFest boardwalk all day with product displays, samples and demonstrations for visitors of all ages. Whatever your need or interest, you'll find it in the HarborFest Village.

All proceeds from HarborFest will help fund SoundWaters Long Island Sound education programs. Funding and support to make HarborFest possible is provided by Harbor Point, Aquarion Water Company, ShopRite, O&G Industries, 95.9 The FOX, Moffly Media, City Carting, Stella Mar Oyster Company, Harbor Point Wines & Spirits, Stamford Yacht Club, the Stamford Historical Society and the City of Stamford Mayor's office, Police and Fire Departments.

Visit SoundWatersHarborFest.org for complete information.

About SoundWaters

SoundWaters, founded in 1989, is the premier environmental education organization focused on the protection of Long Island Sound and its watershed. Annually, SoundWaters hosts shipboard and land-based programs for 32,000 children, including 15,000 from underserved communities. SoundWaters works in partnership with schools, communities, civic organizations, businesses and other environmental and educational organizations to develop experiences that foster a sense of responsibility for the environment and encourage actions that ensure the sustainable future of the Long Island Sound ecosystem. For more information, visit SoundWaters.org



HarborFest Schedule of Events (subject to change; check SoundWatersHarborFest.org)

Friday, August 24

Noon – 4:00pm Scuba diving in the Go Dive Now pool

Saturday, August 25

10:00am: HarborFest Boat Parade – all the boats of HarborFest

10:00am - 6:00pm

Try Scuba Diving
 HarborFest Seaside Golf Links^{\$}

Kids Boat Building
 HarborFest Exhibitor Village

Touch A Boat
 Touch A Truck

Waterfront Painting^{\$}
 SoundWaters Touch Tanks

Corn Hole
 Food Trucks

Harbor History Boat Tours (10:15 & 11:15am, 12:15 & 1:15pm) \$

Harbor Boat Rides (11:00am, 12:30pm, 2:00pm) \$

HarborFest Music Stage

10:30am: Silver Steel steel drum band

1:00pm: School of Rock

4:00pm: Charlie Scopoletti & The Truth

12:00 – 6:00pm: Oyster Lounge (with beer, wine and vodka tasting)

1:00 – 3:00pm: Cardboard Kayak Building* \$

3:00pm: Public Sail on the Schooner *SoundWaters** \$

3:15 – 4:15pm: Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race for the Mayor's Trophy* \$

6:00 – 8:00pm: Sunset Sail on the Schooner *SoundWaters* * \$

^{*} Advance Registration Required

^{\$} Additional Cost Involved





Enter the Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race.

Photo Credit: Michael Bagley



REGISTER TODAY



Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race

CELEBRATING STAMFORD HARBOR

Saturday, August 25

What floats your boat?

Compete in the 3rd Annual Aquarion Cardboard Kayak Race where you will participate in a battle of wits, design, capabilities, and courage! Build a cardboard kayak using the provided materials and race it on Stamford Harbor!

Anyone can compete * All ages welcome



The Basic Rules**

- Teams of six boat builders register in advance (\$100 registration fee covers the cost of materials)
- Each team receives 8 sheets of cardboard, 3 rolls of duct tape, 6 rolls of clear packing tape, utility knife, & a yardstick
- Boats must be built strictly from supplied materials.
- Teams have two hours to build their boats and must be ready to race when the cannon fires.
- Two team members will race the boat on the Harbor
- Boat Building: 1pm 3pm, Race: 3:15pm 4:15pm

** See website for complete rules



Get complete details and register today!

SoundWatersHarborFest.org

#StamfordHarborFest



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SoundWatersHarborFest.org