



SUMMER DAYS

Summer @ SoundWaters

2018



It all starts with a splash. Summer fun creates a lifelong love for the Sound.

Biggest Summer Ever

More kids + more learning + more fun than ever before equals Summer 2018 at SoundWaters. Four youth enrichment programs, two large summer events and record numbers of people getting onto the Sound through our public sails, kayaks and paddle boards made summer 2018 our biggest and busiest yet. It was crazy, it was exciting and we wouldn't have it any other way.

This report is about the Summer Days when we connect thousands of people to Long Island Sound. Sailing, paddling, swimming, learning; for three months, the Sound is our region's playground and with \$396,000 in scholarships, SoundWaters makes it accessible to every family.



SoundWaters @ the Harbor

Young Mariners

Mix 80 kids, a fleet of small boats, smart, creative and passionate staff, add brackish water and bake under a warm summer sun for ten weeks and the results are amazing. We call it Young Mariners Academy, where kids grow by leaps and bounds in confidence, community and learning. Rising 5th – 9th graders - many struggling in school - showed stunning improvements in their comprehension of science, math and social studies, not to mention impressive sailing skills. When 100% of parents see improvements in their child, something good is happening.



Building remotely operated vehicles.

My favorite part is sailing, it's really hard. I kept trying and I did it.
- Ben Vita, Young Mariners student



Rounding the mark.

Preventing the Summer Slide



6th graders showed a 29% increase in science capacity.



7th graders showed a 31% increase in math ability.



8th graders showed a 34% increase in social studies understanding.



9th graders showed a 33% increase in understanding Common Core Standards.

M.A.T.E. (Maritime Adventure Team Experience)

Driving the boat at 10 years old? That was the challenge facing 22 rising 5th graders from Stamford's Roxbury School this summer in SoundWaters MATE program. MATE is a respect-based group learning program. Working together, MATE students gained confidence by investigating and tackling real-world challenges as a team, such as driving the ship and human impact on our environment. These MATEs are ready for a great 5th grade school year!

I had never been on a boat before. I got to learn about how the boat works and the parts of the boat and I even got to steer it.
-Heidy Mendoza, MATE Student



Learning about water density.



91% of MATE students are more excited for science in 5th grade.



Setting sail aboard the Schooner.

SoundWaters @ Cove

Camp SoundWaters

Camp SoundWaters is... 493 campers, a gorgeous waterfront setting and tons of sailing, swimming and shoreline adventures: an unforgettable summer experience.



Learning about horseshoe crabs.



94% of camp parents said their child will return in 2019.



Learning to sail.

SoundWaters has made me a much more confident person and I will never forget my amazing experience at the camp.

- Amruta Viswamath, Camp SoundWaters Counselor

Voyagers

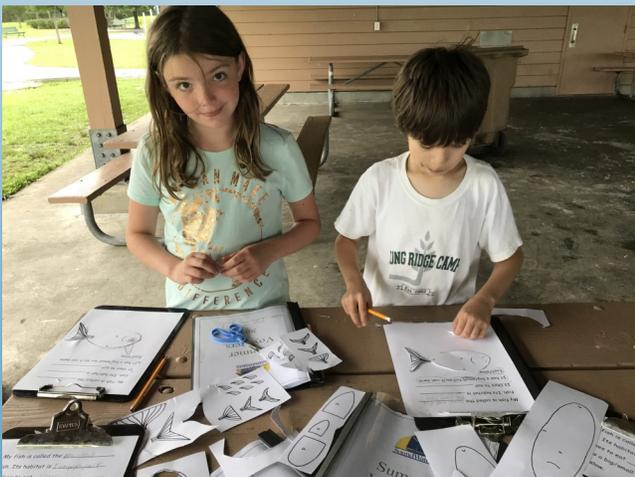
A creative new summer program run in partnership with Stamford Public Schools, Voyagers welcomed 90 rising 4th and 5th grade students – most on scholarship - over six weeks to conduct fun science projects, like growing plants without soil (hydroponics), monitoring the impact of water quality on animals' health and determining the optimal water conditions for growing oysters.

This is really hard work. Really, really hard work. But I love it. It's all worth it when one of them (students) gets it. They make that connection and really understand what we are doing.

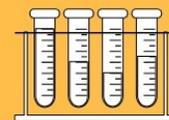
-Brittany Martin, Voyagers Counselor



Learning about hydroponics.



Learning about fish habitats and adaptations.



Voyagers participants showed a 26% increase in scientific knowledge.

Summer @ SoundWaters: Were you there?



The Flotilla Doubles in Size

Talk about a movement to protect the Sound! 84 paddlers set off from the beaches at Cove Island and Weed Beach and paddled 4 miles to Boccuzzi Park on Stamford Harbor. The event raised \$15,000 to support Long Island Sound education programs for students. Save the date for next year: July 13, 2019.

This event was amazing! I had a great time. Enjoyed being a part of and supporting such a great cause.

-Flotilla Participant

HarborFest Celebrates A Record-Setting Year

What a way to end the summer! HarborFest started with a parade of boats and cannon fire and concluded with great live music. In between, an estimated 7,000 visitors—more than ever before—descended on the Harbor Point waterfront to build boats and ride boats, learn about oysters and eat oysters and just soak up all the beauty and recreation that Stamford Harbor could offer on a perfect day.



This is a WONDERFUL day - so informative and so much fun! Love the kayak building and races; the boat rides; visiting the various boats and talking to the crews. Thank you!"

- HarborFest Visitor

Save the Dates

- Coastal Cleanup : October 13, 2018**
- Annual Meeting: November 13, 2018**
- Tall Ships Ball: May 3, 2019**
- Flotilla: July 13, 2019**
- HarborFest: August 24, 2019**

