



Hudson River
Estuary Program

A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Hudson-Harbor Educators Work Group

September 12, 2024

Minutes

Shared Google Folder: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13SSRnA9UtYWNGbBbxGX-o0qyYZKRdIRE?usp=sharing>

HEP Action Agenda

- See Liz's presentation for details, and Liz also took her own notes
- High level takeaways: capacity building, data storytelling, engaged communities
- Action Agenda survey response to "statement": Sounds more like a mission statement; redundant and long; needs stronger wording on social justice.
- Liz took her own notes on group comments.
- Shino: Yes, there is a need to educate residents, but there is also a lot of knowledge within communities that needs to be elevated.
- Bowser: In addition to data/research/curriculum, teachers also want experts/facilitators to connect with their students.
- Tina/Akilah: Educators have relative access to local conferences, but regional or national conferences present big challenges. (NAAEE is relatively close in Philly this fall)

Resource Sharing

Newtown Creek Alliance has a series of great animated videos! Stormwater, green infrastructure.

HRPT: Gansevoort saltmarsh. "Saltmarsh Build". Great live demo and an intro activity for getting students out on the peninsula.

Turn and talk and share: What should we cover in December meeting and beyond?

- More day to day sharing and implementation in our individual programs
- Continued resource sharing, ex: language ENL challenges and resources, on specific contacts
- Can we use art in our existing communications and program
- STURGEON PUPPET SHOW...is its name really Bowser
- Water quality and safety protocols, best practices for youth safety, weather issues (incl heat)
- Water body advisories, "flood nets"
- Small group shares from a government agency perspective (DEP, DEC) ex: DEP programs are no-cost so they get booked up quickly
- Climate information, share up to date resources and what best engages students, especially keeping in inclusive (ex NYclimateeducation.org; NJclimateeducation.org, DOE office of sustainability)
- How do tie our programs to learning standards; science, but other subjects as well
- Barriers to inclusion for teachers to take field trips, such as regent exam pressures
- Changes to Science Regents
- The resurgence of Sewage in a Suitcase

Action: We will take these ideas and reach back out for specific ideas on experts or folks to lead parts.