



LISCIF Annual Learning Exchange





June 27, 2024

Oyster Shell Recovery Program

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Ecosystem benefits provided by Oysters

Improved Water Quality

Nutrient uptake, sequestration and filtration

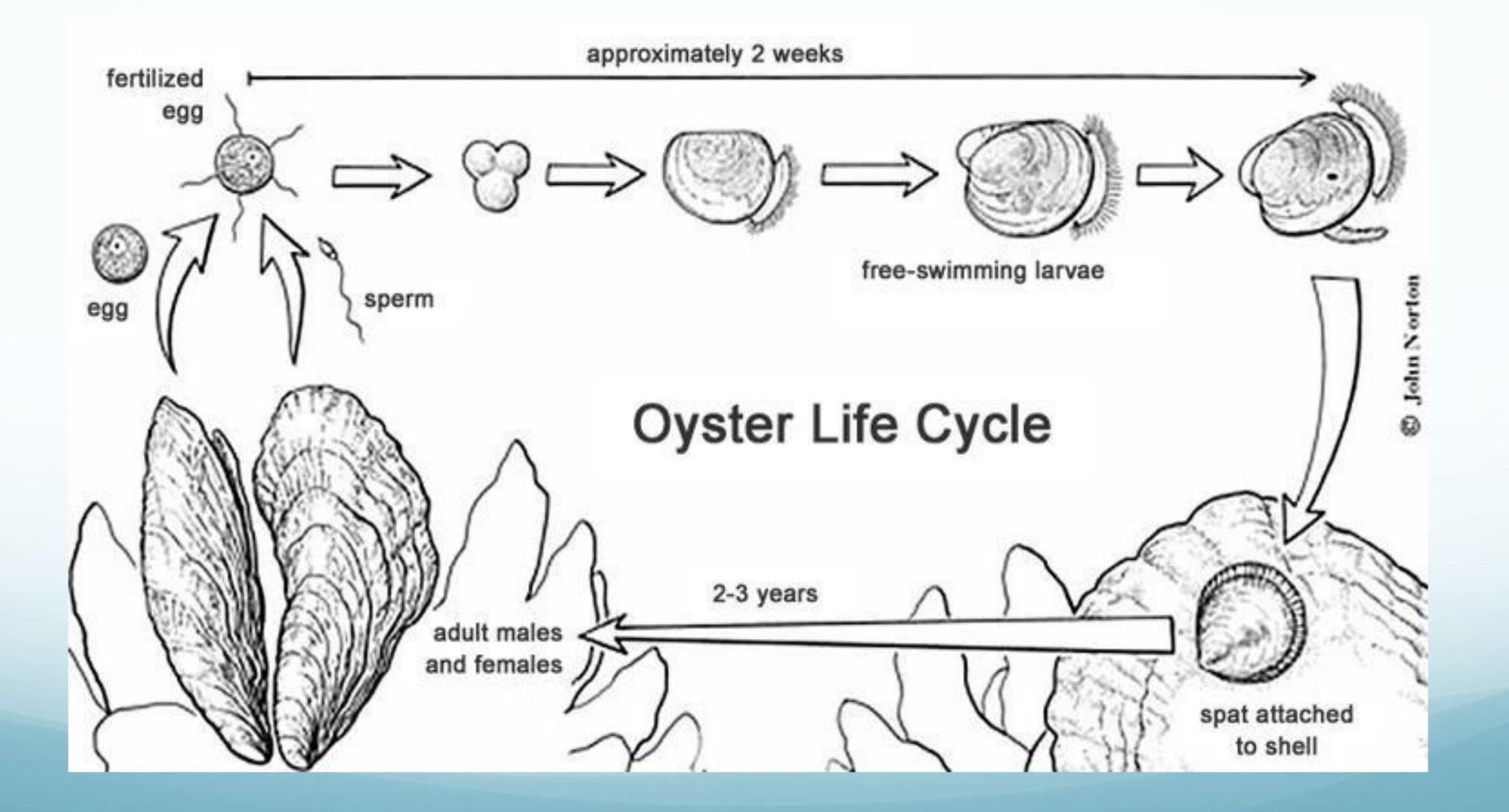
Substrate for hard bottom benthos & refuge for other biota

*Mitigate coastal ocean acidification



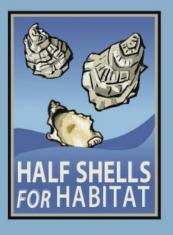


Oysters Form Shell Reefs



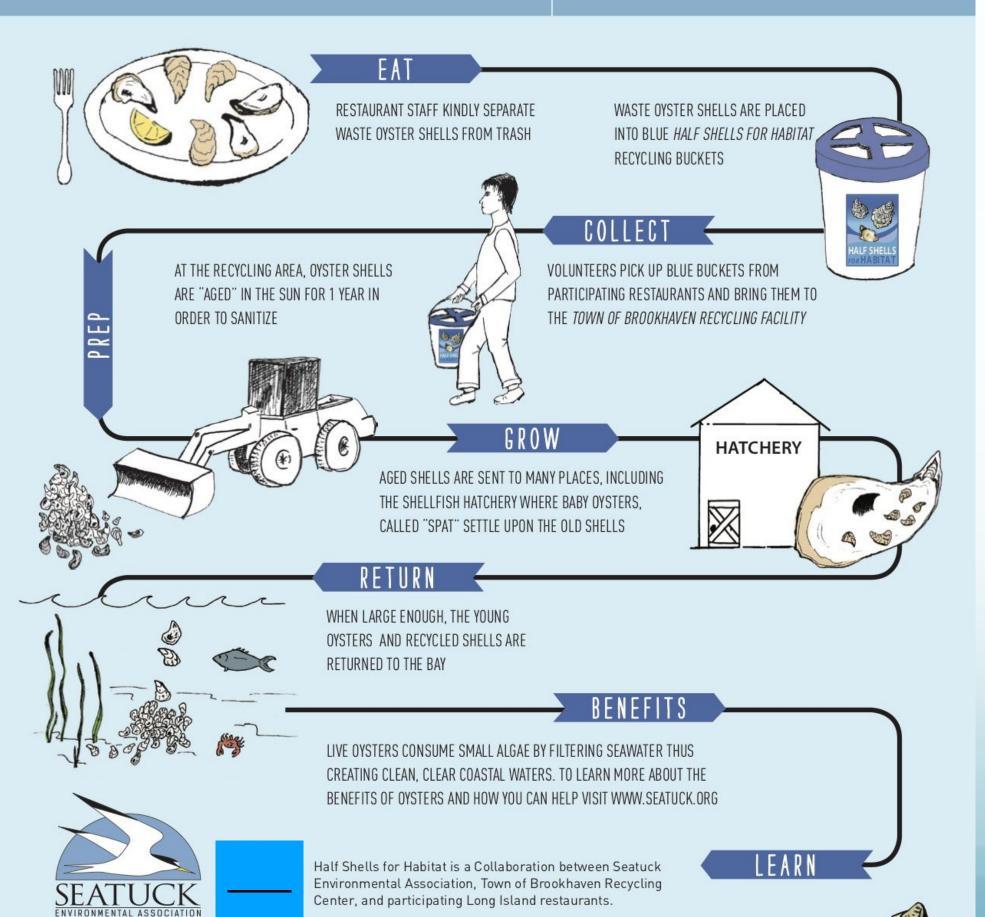


10 Reasons to Recycle Oyster Shells

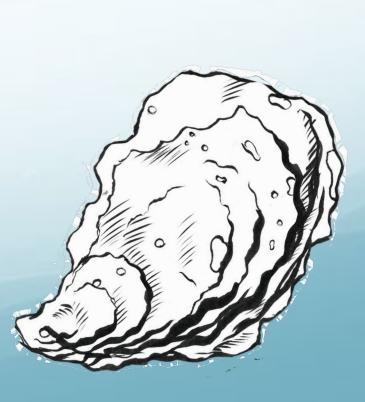


HALF SHELLS FOR HABITAT OYSTER SHELL RECOVERY PROGRAM

Waste Oyster shells can provide many benefits to our marine ecosystem; they are the perfect base for young oysters to settle on and a natural habitat for many small fish and crabs. As they dissolve, oyster shells protect animals against the effects of coastal acidification. Oyster shells also serve to stabilize our shoreline against destructive storms. But first we must return the shells to the bay!



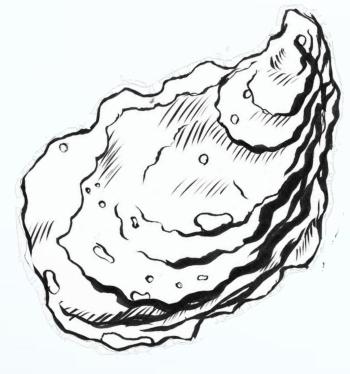
- Enhanced Water Quality
- Wild Oyster Habitat Restoration
- Reduce Nitrogen Pollution
- Reduce Landfill
- Shoreline Stabilization
- Mitigate Coastal Acidification
- Provide Mesohabitat
- Serve as a Carbon sink
- Community Involvement
- Tourism & Cultural History

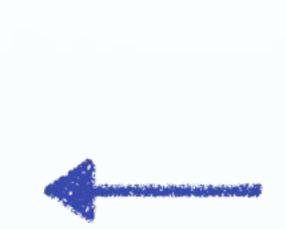






Half Shells for Habitat **Oyster Shell Recovery Partnership**



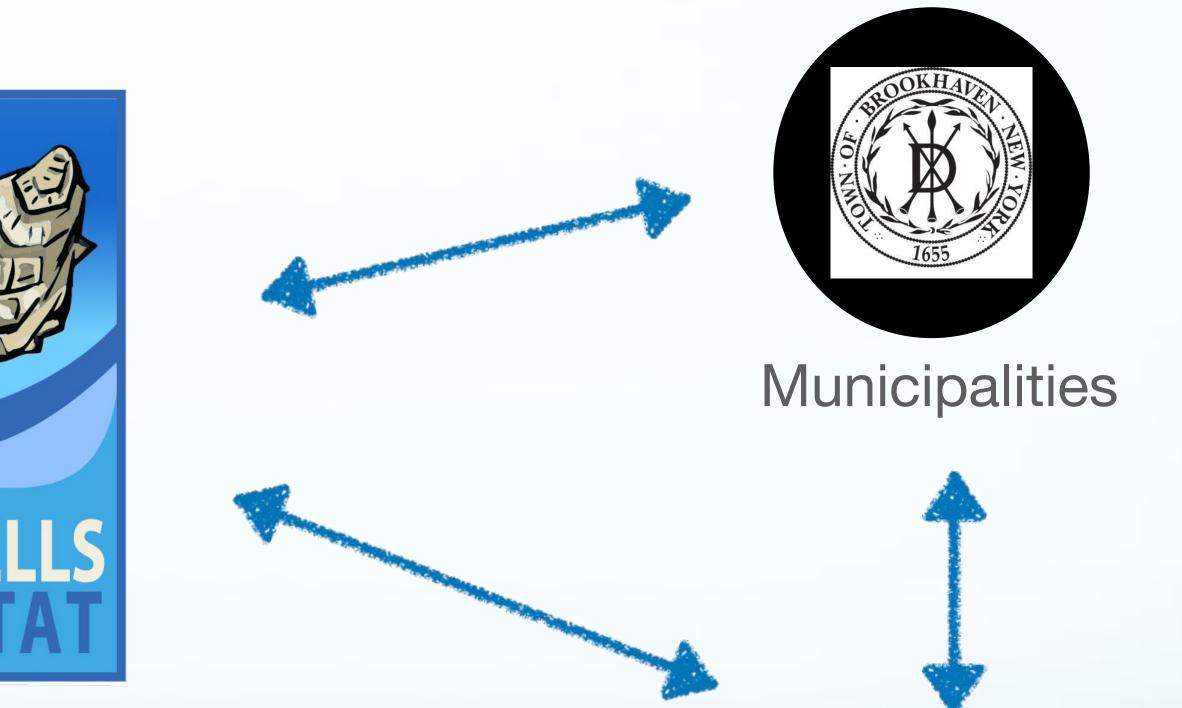




Oyster Reef Restoration Project

Visit us at Halfshellsforhabitat.org

As of 2023 nearly 200,000 lbs of shell recovered and more than 45,000 lbs. returned to our waters.



Environmental, **Non-Profit Group**



Farmed Oysters are Served in Restaurants

Environmental, Non-Profit Group

STEP 1.



<image>

Waste shells collected from restaurants and local festivals can be used to create wild oyster reefs



Deposit Oyster Shells Only HERE





Municipalities



















Establish a Shell Curing Site



> Less than 6 inches high

- > Aged for one year
- > Exposed to sun
- > Turned over frequently
- > New pile every 3 months



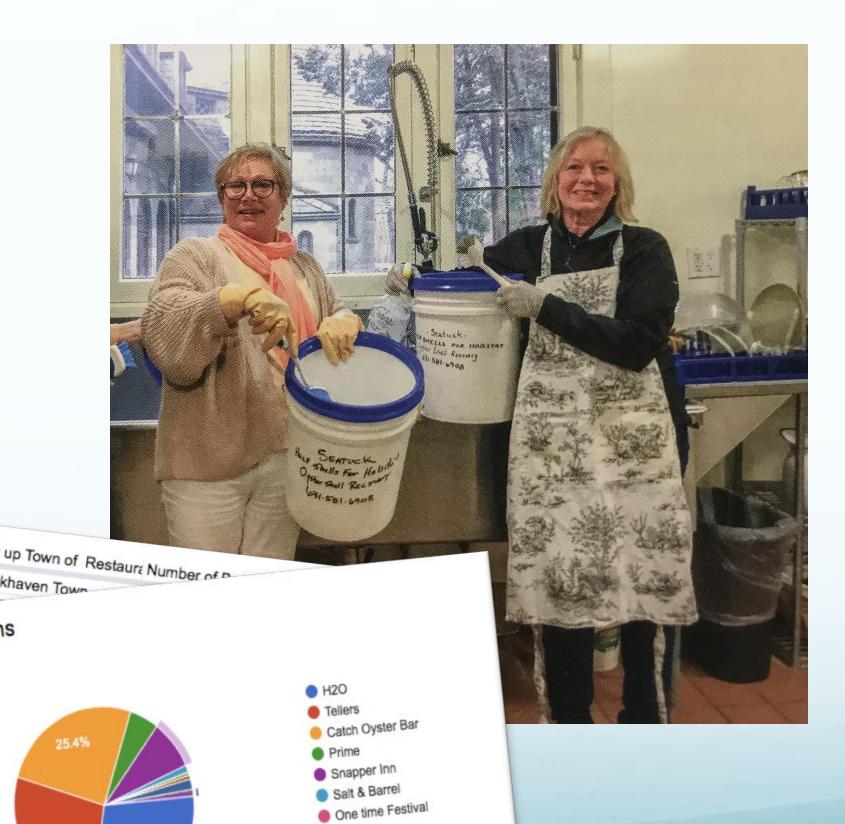
STEP 3.

Program Management

27.2%

- Recruiting and scheduling volunteers *(local environmental group)
- Bucket cleaning *
- Shell Transport to curing site *
- Record keeping (curing dates, pile dates, source)*
- Assist with curing permits
- Inventory and provide supplies
- Shell distribution to habitat restoration projects
- Publish Newsletter
- Publicity and Branding

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	Date Pick us t	
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The View

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Visit us at Halfshellsforhabitat.org









Lessons Learned

- Permits are required to recover waste in NY and CT • Efficient Bucket washing is key.
- Restaurants need staff information and consistency.
- Transportation to curing sites can be difficult.
- Every location has its unique challenges.



For More Information:



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www.seatuck.org.

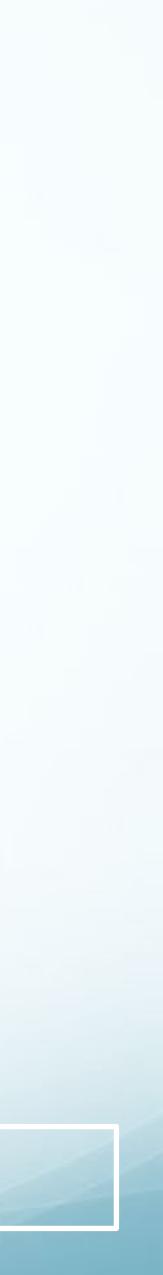
www.halfshellsforhabit.org.

Seatuck 631-581-6908

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@halfshellsforhabitat



Extra slides

Shoreline Stabilization and Living Shorelines to Prevent Erosion

