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LONG ISLAND SOUND: BETTER TODAY, BUT ALWAYS A WORK IN PROGRESS 4

While Long Island Sound has improved measurably over the last 30 years, the task of restoration is far from finished.

AS NEW HAVEN TAKES A GREEN-FIRST APPROACH, THE HARBOR GAINS TOO 9

This urban community is considered a leader in infrastructure that benefits the environment.

IT TAKES A WATERSHED TO SAVE A BAY 11

From its headwaters to the beach, Niantic Bay needs everyone's effort to safeguard it into the future.

Photo: Judy Preston



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Photo: A.J. Hand

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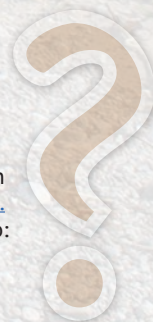
Meet our writers and photographers.

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ASK WRACK LINES

Send us your questions about the articles. Depending on volume, we'll answer as many as possible in a new column on our website, seagrants.uconn.edu. Email your questions to: judy.benson@uconn.edu.



Niantic wrack line. Photo: Judy Preston

WHAT'S IN OUR NAMES?

What are wrack lines? Specifically, the lines of organic matter (sea grass, shells, feathers, seaweed and other debris) that are deposited on shore by high tides. More generally, it's where the sea meets the land. The photo above shows a wrack line in Niantic. On the opposite page is one from Norwalk, and the cover shows one in New Haven.

With our magazine *Wrack Lines*, we tell stories about the intersection of the land, sea and Connecticut Sea Grant. So what is Connecticut Sea Grant? One of 33 Sea Grant programs across the country, it helps residents make the most of our coastal resources and inland waterways. It addresses the challenges that come with living by the water or within a Long Island Sound watershed, in a state with 332 miles of shoreline and three major tidal rivers.

This NOAA-state partnership based at UConn's Avery Point campus works with aquaculture farmers, fishermen and seafood purveyors to help their businesses prosper. It funds research essential to understanding and managing our changing coastal and inland environments. It provides communities and local leaders with the information they need to make better land and shoreline decisions that result in more resilient communities and healthier watersheds. It educates students as well as teachers and adults of all ages about the marine environment.

Connected to experts and residents who live, work and recreate in the Sound and its watershed, it brings diverse interests together around a common purpose of working for mutually beneficial solutions to problems. Small in staff but big in impact, Connecticut Sea Grant is like a pilot boat that navigates the way for large vessels toward safe harbors. Since 1988, Connecticut Sea Grant has supported "Science Serving the Connecticut Coast."