



P.O. Box 203 Westhampton NY 11977

Utilization of the historic Raynor Fish Shed at Beaver Dam Creek

Mission of The Moriches Bay Project (MBP)

The MBP is a 501c3 not-for-profit grass roots organization whose mission is to improve the water quality in Moriches Bay, primarily through the transformative power of oyster gardening. One adult oyster filters an impressive 50 gallons of water daily.

Last year, our concerted efforts saw the planting of approximately 700,000 oysters in the Bay: contributing to the filtering of over 3 million gallons of water each day! We are embarking on our 12th season, and each year we have gained more momentum and fostered stronger community support. The MBP has a firm belief that the restoration of the Raynor Fish Shed, a historic landmark, would be a way to bring the community together. Not just by laboring to grow oysters to improve water quality, but by creating an exhibit that puts a spotlight on the pressing environmental issues facing our bay and educates the all members of the community on ways they can get actively involved.

Scope of Services:

Our objective at the MBP is to utilize this space at Beaver Dam Creek as marine education center and create a connection between the MBP mission, a Town historical resource, and the community. Our homes, businesses, and lives are all intricately linked to the Bay and therefore its wellbeing is our responsibility.

With guidance and input from the community, we would like to take their direction on programs that serve them best. Additionally, we would provide outreach to the local schools, and involve other marine science programs, as well as work closely with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Southampton Town Trustees to help accomplish their initiatives. We would like to complete the proposed project in three progressive phases, starting slowly, then growing organically each year.



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Phase 1:

- Open the facility to the public from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- Staff and operate the facility for 10 hours per week.
- Run the FL.UP.SY at full capacity for the full season.
- Install an interior touch tank display.
- Install 2 fish tanks displays showcasing local fish and crustacean species.
- Install exhibits and educational diagrams highlighting oysters and water quality issues.
- Host 2 community/educational events targeting children and families.

Phase 2:

- Begin small community run oyster garden.
- Add additional educational displays, some involving local artists.
- Host educational programs during the summer targeting children and camps.
- Host guest speakers.
- Increase facility hours.
- Install a second FL.UP.SY – increasing the production of oysters of Beaver Dam Creek.

Phase 3:

- Add additional FL.UP.SY
- Add additional educational displays by adding touch screen virtual educational displays.
- Broaden public education, expanding to terrestrial animals and plants found locally.
- Add in the element waterfowl education.
- Hosting art or poetry classes.

In closing, we at the MBP are proud of the work we've accomplished over the last 12 years, and feel there is much more to do. We are a determined group of passionate individuals and are enthusiastic about beginning this partnership. We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to steward this project as it is so close to home, and with our knowledge and experience we are confident that we can make it a real source of pride for the Town of Southampton.