



New York Sea Grant (NYSG)

is a collaborative program of the State University of New York, Cornell University, and NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

With 3,400 miles of coastlines, New York is the only U.S. state bordering both the Great Lakes and Atlantic Ocean. More than 85% of NY's population lives in a coastal region.



14 Offices

NYSG provides research, education, and extension services enhancing coastal community economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and citizen awareness of NY's marine and Great Lakes resources.

New York Sea Grant
379 Roberts Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
www.nyseagrant.org

NYSG Focus Area:
Resilient New York
Communities
and Economies
Written by
Sustainable and
Resilient Communities
Extension Professionals
Sarah Schaefer-Brown
Elizabeth Hornstein
eeh78@cornell.edu
January 2026

Building Resilience in Suffolk and Nassau Long Island Sound Communities

New York Sea Grant developed workshops to empower Suffolk and Nassau Counties' communities to take steps to increase their resilience.

Long Island Sound watershed communities in Suffolk and Nassau Counties are facing flooding, erosion, and other impacts due to a changing environment. There is a need for increased knowledge and resources to help guide decision-makers as they work to adapt to these environmental challenges and implement projects.

In spring 2025, New York Sea Grant Sustainable and Resilient Communities Extension Professionals held a Long Island Funding Workshop, where attendees heard from thirty-five funding organizations and a panel of successful awardees. Attendees were able to engage in discussions with funders about their resilience-focused project ideas and ways to improve their applications. In fall 2025, Suffolk and Nassau Coastal Resilience Forums and Field Trips were held to share resources and best practices to help decision-makers address flooding, erosion, and other coastal issues, and enhance coordination across communities. Attendees learned about both State and local resilience initiatives and several new tools.

These events drew 207 participants, including sixty-four first-time participants. One funding workshop participant said, "I thought this was one of the most thoughtfully organized conferences I've been to. It was really helpful to hear the tips for applying to different government grant opportunities, and the tips from the panel of awardees. I will definitely pay close attention to their suggestions next time I apply for a grant."

Decision-makers now have increased knowledge and capacity to take the next steps in their resilience planning and implementation efforts, and new collaborations among Long Island Sound communities represented at the workshop have been formed that will strengthen their mutual efforts.

Project Partner:

- Long Island Sound Partnership



Participants at the Suffolk County Coastal Resilience Forum assemble for a walking tour of the village of Port Jefferson.

Photo: Sumayyah Uddin/New York Sea Grant