

LARGEST EXPANSION IN HISTORY

The first project was expanding the Shinnecock Reef. This included strategically placing recycled materials from the former Tappan Zee Bridge, as well as former New York State Canal vessels. In addition to the inaugural expansion of the Shinnecock Reef, five additional reef sites will be enhanced in 2018 at sites off the shores of Smithtown, Moriches, Fire Island, Hempstead, and Rockaway.

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE

Before material can be deployed at artificial reef sites it must be inspected and cleaned of any hazardous substances. The New York State DEC works with multiple federal agencies to ensure material meets very strict standards and is appropriate to use in marine environments.

MARINE LIFE MOVES IN

As quickly as the material settles on the sea floor, the reef structure begins to fill with marine life. Fish like blackfish, black sea bass, scup, fluke, hake, and cod move in to check out the new structure. Lobsters and crabs also take up residence in our artificial reefs, and encrusting organisms like barnacles, sponges, anemones, corals, and mussels cling to and cover the material.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7896.html>



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ARTIFICIAL REEFS

Long Island's Sunken Treasure



Long Island beaches are a national treasure, world-renowned for their fine white sand, spectacular waves, miles of boardwalks, beach trails, restaurants, picnic areas, and beautiful sunrises and sunsets.

And just a few miles offshore you can find Long Island's "Sunken Treasure," twelve artificial reefs developed by New York State to improve sport fishing and provide new and exciting recreational opportunities. Long Island's artificial reefs shelter fish and other marine organisms that attract popular fish species like sea bass, fluke, cod and blackfish.

For years, fishermen and divers advocated for expansion of Long Island's artificial reefs, and that is why Governor Cuomo has directed the largest expansion of artificial reefs in State history. This will provide better fishing and diving opportunities, support businesses that depend on recreation, and provide jobs for thousands of Long Islanders.






**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

ARTIFICIAL REEF SITES

The twelve artificial reef sites in New York State that are managed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

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