



SARAH  
LAWRENCE  
COLLEGE

CENTER FOR THE URBAN RIVER AT BEZAK

# 2022 HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



## RESEARCH

**WATER QUALITY:** A dozen community scientists collected over 200 samples from 17 sites along the Saw Mill and Hudson rivers to be analyzed for fecal indicator bacteria with results shared biweekly with over 200 community stakeholders. We also launched a fecal bacteria source tracking study utilizing qPCR with SLC faculty member Dr. Michelle Hersh.

**EELS:** Tracked 3,571 migrating glass eels, a new record for our site, with the help of 35 volunteers and interns. In nine years of sampling we have now counted 13,484 glass eels passing through our tidal marsh on their way up the Hudson River.

**SEINING:** Nearly 10,000 animals representing 33 species were caught, counted, and released. First-time catches included emerald shiner, spot, spottail shiner, tautog, and blackcheek tonguefish—only the third ever caught in the Hudson River.

## EDUCATION

**RETURN TO IN-PERSON FIELD TRIPS:** After over two years with limited in-person field trips, we were able to host more than 600 students. This fall we were fully booked, with eager school groups ready to get back to CURB, and spring 2023 is filling up fast too.

**YONKERS BLUE TEAM:** Ten Yonkers High School students and two Blue Team graduates spent six weeks at CURB for a paid summer internship focused on water quality in the Hudson and community outreach, capped off with an outreach event that drew 150 residents to CURB.

**TEACHING TEACHERS:** With the Child Development Institute, CURB revamped our long-running Teaching the Environment program and piloted the updated curriculum with guest speakers from Lenape Center, Watershed Agricultural Council, and Billion Oyster Project, to name a few.

## COMMUNITY

**SUMMER PROGRAMS:** With support from Domino Sugar and the City of Yonkers, we hosted Yonkers community-based groups for free field trips this summer including a special seven-week garden-focused program with the Lanza Learning Center.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** Many in-person weekend programs returned this year like Great Hudson River Fish Count, World Fish Migration Day, Tour de Yonkers, Yonkers Arts Weekend, Day in the Life Training, Riverfest, and a new summer kickoff event with Yonkers Paddling and Rowing Club.

**VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS:** Approximately 150 volunteers and 30 Sarah Lawrence students contributed 2,500 hours of service including group projects with the Art of Teaching Program, Avenues The World School, Atomyze, Mastercard, Regeneron, Eagle Scouts, and the 9/11 Day of Service.