

Thank You!

2017 Annual Report



SAVE THE BAY.®

NARRAGANSETT BAY

est. 1970

Our mission is simple



Protect and improve Narragansett Bay.

We accomplish our mission on the shore, in the water and throughout the watershed thanks to you—our members, donors, volunteers and countless community partners.

Our 2017 annual report highlights many of the achievements you made possible in the last year.

Thank you for your support for Narragansett Bay.

Message from our Director and Board President

Dear Friends,

Thanks to you, Save The Bay has championed the cleanup of the Bay for nearly a half century. And what incredible progress we've made! Last October, the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program released its *State of the Bay* report, the first comprehensive look in more than a decade at 24 indicators of Bay and watershed health. While the news is not all good, there is no question that the health of the Bay is improving. More acres of the Bay are open to shellfishing, beach closures are less frequent and the Bay remains extraordinarily productive. Iconic species such as menhaden, striped bass, harbor seals, osprey and diving ducks have been plentiful in recent years.

At the same time, there are profound and worrisome changes occurring in the ecology of the Bay. Salt marshes—critical nurseries for countless species of marine animals and birds—are dying due to rising sea levels. Species of fish and crustaceans that were once commonplace are being displaced by less familiar species as waters warm. Development pressures along the shoreline and in the watershed remain intense. This development, if not properly managed, can lead to pollution and other damaging impacts. Trash and marine debris foul our shores. Government, at the local, state and federal level, is perpetually challenged in marshalling the resources to enforce environmental laws, deal with polluted runoff and fund investments in natural resources. Perhaps most worrisome is the sense of complacency we observe all too frequently among voters and elected officials.

Our charge, with your enthusiastic support, is to sound the alarm and mobilize people to stand up for what we all hold dear: a beautiful, clean, healthy, living Bay. Every year, thousands of Save The Bay members, volunteers, swimmers, and supporters show up and stand up. You are the source of our strength to achieve lasting progress. And you are the ones who will ensure we protect the gains we all fought so hard to achieve over the past 48 years.

With appreciation,

Jonathan Stone
Executive Director

Cynthia J. Butler
Board President



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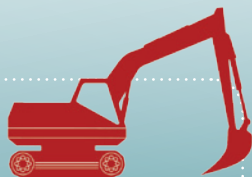
Waters are cleaner and habitats are improving.

In 2017, thanks to you:

- After completing our 10th year of water testing in the Lower Pawcatuck River estuary and Little Narragansett Bay, our Coastkeeper is helping the town of Westerly discover the source of bacteria in the downtown section of the river.
- Working with the Coastal Resources Management Council, we planted nearly 50,000 shoots of salt marsh grasses and created networks of shallow creeks in Ninigret marsh in Charlestown. The project represents an innovative approach to help the marsh adapt to rising sea levels by elevating the marsh with sand.
- At Calf Pasture Point salt marsh in North Kingstown, we excavated shallow creeks to allow water to drain off the low-lying upland area, and now the marsh is beginning to successfully migrate inland as sea levels rise.
- Our work with the cities of Cranston and East Providence culminated in two projects that filter pollution from runoff flowing into the Bay at Stillhouse Cove and Sabin Point.
- We completed the first phase of a dam removal project at Shady Lea Mill in North Kingstown to improve river connectivity and restore a half-mile of stream access for migratory shad and American eel.
- With the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, we completed a two-year study of spawning habitat in Shad Factory Pond in support of our efforts to restore river herring and shad to this important river system.
- In our first Seal Count Report, we summarized thousands of volunteer seal observations from the 20-year history of our seal monitoring program.

1,222

water quality
measurements
taken in the
Pawcatuck River
and Little
Narragansett
Bay



3,900

feet of shallow creeks
and runnels dug in
five marshes to drain
impounded water

67,130

salt marsh
grasses planted



UNFI volunteers, Sandy Meyer (background) and Ginger Lynch (foreground), help plant more than 50,000 salt marsh grasses at Ninigret marsh.



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Thanks to YOU

Providence After School Alliance summer scholars test out their cardboard boat in our marine science course, How and Why Do Things Float?



Future Bay stewards are emerging.

In 2017, thanks to you:

- Students from 140 schools or school districts, including 44 Title I schools, participated in Save The Bay's marine science and environmental education programs. Two-thirds of our school partners represented Rhode Island's urban core communities, including Providence, Central Falls, Woonsocket, Pawtucket and Newport.
- We provided marine science education to 10,567 students and spent an average of 14 hours with each of the 3,766 students who worked with us multiple times throughout the school year.
- 89 percent of our 2016 education partners returned to us again in 2017, a testament to the quality of our marine science and environmental education programs.
- Every fourth-grader in the Warwick School District is getting hands-on marine science and environmental education with Save The Bay as part of their science curriculum.
- Students and teachers at Central Falls High, Woonsocket High, and 360 High School in Providence engaged in our Narragansett Bay Field Studies program, a long-term, inquiry-based environmental science and professional development program supported in part by a three-year National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration B-WET grant.
- We expanded our afterschool learning programs in Connecticut, and ran the programs at Deans Mills Elementary School in Mystic for the first time.



10,567
students received
our marine science
and environmental
education programs

1,248

school programs
provided, with 30
of 37 R.I. school
districts taking part
in our marine science
education



596

BayCampers
made the Bay
their summer
campground



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Community members are involved.

In 2017, thanks to you:

- In a year-long anti-litter effort, we targeted four popular Warwick beaches with weekly cleanups, newspaper articles, promotional materials and social media. Nearly 1,500 volunteers removed 7,770 pounds of trash from Oakland Beach, Salter Grove, Conimicut Point and Rocky Point State Park.
- We led Rhode Island's participation in the International Coastal Cleanup for the fourth year, enlisting 2,629 volunteers who removed 16,484 pounds of trash from 90 local shoreline sites across the state.
- We produced and distributed *Bay-Friendly Living*, a guide to lawn care and lifestyle tips that help reduce polluted runoff and improve water quality.
- We connected 33,815 community members—a 27% increase over last year—with Narragansett Bay through seal and lighthouse tours, summer camps and the Exploration Center and Aquarium.
- We strengthened our community partnerships to become the beneficiary of such community events as the 4 Bridges Ride, Pell Bridge Run and Whole Foods Day.
- Our new Bay of the Future exhibit teaches aquarium visitors about the growing populations of tropical fish that are surviving longer in our warming waters.
- After treacherous weather conditions canceled our 41st annual Swim, we engaged more than 150 swimmers in an #AlternateSwim, raising more than \$220,000 and inspiring others to continue to support our mission.

153
beach cleanups
held in
Rhode Island

4,079
volunteers donated
28,490 hours in
support of our work
for an in-kind value of
\$671,235

29,234
pounds of trash
collected
from R.I.
shoreline



Fisherman Harold Doran removes trash at Collier Point during the International Coastal Cleanup. Passionate about keeping the Bay clean, this “trash hero” picks up trash on his own whenever (and wherever) he goes to the shore.



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Thanks to YOU

caption here



Volunteer Mike Sweeney shares our passion for Narragansett Bay and proved it by spending part of a weekend marking storm drains in Bristol's downtown waterfront district.



Your voice for the Bay remains strong.

In 2017, thanks to you:

- We successfully challenged a Cranston City Council ordinance that would have banned fishing at a publicly designated right-of-way in Edgewood. Our advocacy team reviewed the ordinance, reached out to the City Council and the mayor's office, and teamed up with neighborhood and recreational fishing groups to safeguard fishing rights from the shore, which are protected by the R.I. Constitution.
- We partnered with the R.I. Saltwater Anglers Association, Audubon Society of R.I. and the National Wildlife Federation to help Rhode Island take the lead nationally in championing conservation of menhaden, a key food fish for striped bass, bluefish, osprey, and whales, and a prolific filter feeder that removes nitrogen from Bay waters.
- We opposed the siting of a 900-megawatt gas-fired power plant near the Clear River in the Blackstone River watershed, where a forested region with highly diverse wildlife and habitat would be at risk if the plant is built.
- We built momentum for major investments to help coastal communities adapt to rapidly rising seas, coastal erosion, loss of habitat, and threats to public access caused by climate change, including: 1) Gov. Gina Raimondo's inclusion in her FY2019 budget of a \$48.5M "Green Economy-Clean Water Bond" and 2) introduction of legislation that would establish a Riverine and Coastal Adaptation Fund to protect public access to the shore, control flooding and reduce erosion.
- We supported the R.I. Attorney General in defense of public access to a stretch of land abutting Misquamicut State Beach. Although unsuccessful in this case, we continue to identify and work with towns to correct obstructions to designated public access sites, standing up for the public's right to fish, swim and walk along the shoreline.

320
storm drain
markers placed
in Rhode Island
neighborhoods

29,711
visitors connected
with Narragansett
Bay marine life at
the Exploration
Center and
Aquarium

3,388
people saw harbor
seals in the wild
on **135** winter
seal tours

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From our Treasurer:

Dear Save The Bay Supporters,


The strength of Save The Bay's core financial programs and the commitment of others to our future success was clearly evident in our 2017 financial results.

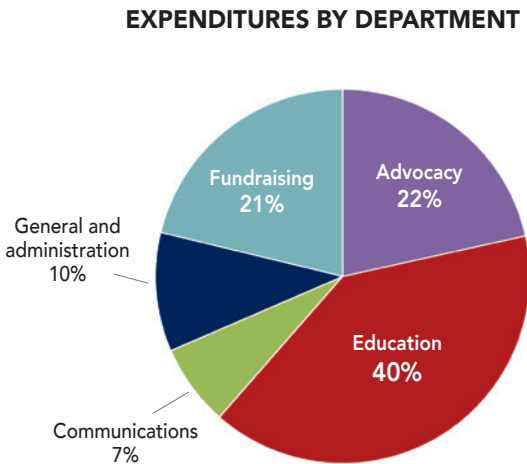
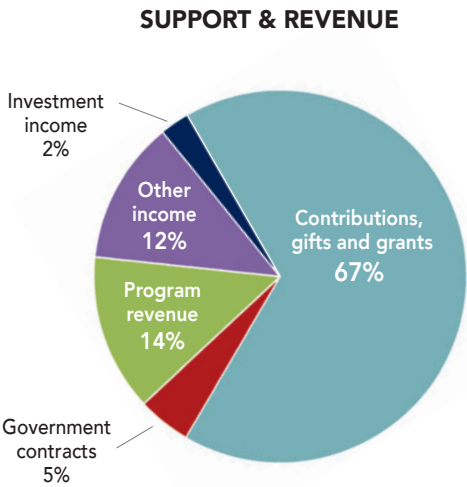
A 21% increase in support and revenue with a focus on retaining expenses at the prior year's level resulted in a \$710,000 increase in net assets for 2017.

The increase in support and revenue resulted principally from an increase in contributions, gifts and grants. The increased level of overall support from many of our Bay Champions and contributions from early supporters of Save The Bay's 50th Anniversary Campaign demonstrated a commitment to our future success. The strength of our core financial programs was evident through the continuing increase in revenues from public education programs and other sources which helped mitigate the expected continuing decline in governmental grant revenue.

Annually, we work hard to align our expenditures with the goals of Save The Bay. Even with increases in revenues, our total expenses did not increase. Increases in our communications costs, resulting from our expanded efforts to get the word out about our excellent programs and advocacy efforts, were offset by the decrease in the costs related to school and public education programs achieved through improved staff utilization and efficient resource allocations. We have increased our fundraising efforts as we plan for our 50th Anniversary Campaign. General administrative expenses have not changed despite other changes throughout Save The Bay.

Our financial success is the direct result of the generous support of thousands of members, donors, funders and sponsors. Thank you for your enduring commitment.


Stephen Geremia, Treasurer



FY17 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$529,188
Receivables (pledges and grants)	518,206
Prepaid expenses and other	113,848
Property and equipment, net	6,501,022
Cash held for long-term purposes	533,775
Investments	1,182,274
Total Assets	9,378,313
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	225,684
Deferred revenue	200,724
Long-term debt	1,359,350
Total Liabilities	1,785,758
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	5,663,733
Temporarily restricted	1,446,363
Permanently restricted	482,459
Total Net Assets	7,592,555
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$9,378,313

FY17 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	
SUPPORT AND REVENUE	
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$2,804,358
Government contracts	194,453
Program revenue	573,037
Other income	523,757
Investment income (loss)	106,060
Total Support and Revenue	4,201,665
EXPENSES	
Advocacy	751,710
Education	1,393,341
Communications	247,228
General and administration	357,954
Fundraising	741,140
Total Expenses	3,491,373
Total Increase in Net Assets	710,292
The financial statements of Save The Bay, Inc. are audited by Batchelor, Frechette, McCrory, Michael & Co. A copy of the complete audited financial statements, along with the auditor's report thereon, is available upon request. For a copy of Save The Bay's IRS Form 990, visit savebay.org/donate	



Endowment Funds

Endowment funds are long-term investments in the future of Narragansett Bay. They support critical strategic initiatives, reduce dependency on annual giving and help us keep pace with rising costs. In our 2020 Strategic Plan, our Board identified growing our endowment as an important priority to lead Save The Bay into its second half century. Our endowment funds are as follows:

Board-Designated Endowment for Operating Support

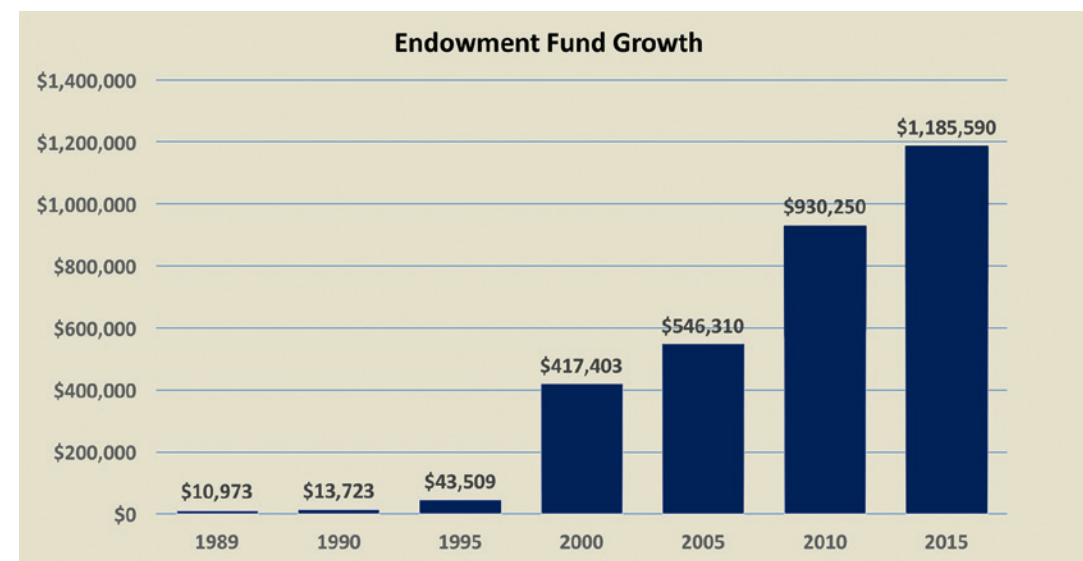
Designated by the Save The Bay Board of Directors, this endowment provides general operating support and the greatest flexibility in managing organizational resources in response to changing circumstances.

Donor-Designated Endowment for Operating Support

The **Julia Sands Chase Fund** honors the memory of Mrs. Chase and supports Save The Bay's critical mission.

Donor-Designated Endowments

The **Alison Walsh Fund** supports a yearly community award for outstanding environmental advocacy. The **Roosa Family Fund for Marine Education** supports marine environmental education for schoolchildren. The **John H. Chafee Memorial Fund** honors the Senator's lifelong commitment to the environment and supports Save The Bay education programs. It can be used to designate endowment contributions below the threshold for individual endowments.



Seagrass Society

Remembering Save The Bay in your will is one of the most meaningful gifts you can make. Within Narragansett Bay, seagrass beds are a primary source of food and shelter for an abundance of marine life. Just as seagrass beds are the foundation of a healthy Bay, the Seagrass Society ensures a long-term, healthy financial foundation for Save The Bay. We are grateful to our members who have included Save The Bay in their estate plans, ensuring the health of the Bay for generations to come.

Seagrass Society Members

Joan C. Abrams
 Hugh D. Auchincloss*
 Joseph Beck *
 Frances Bodell
 Ellen Borden
 Majorie Briody
 Tim P. Burns
 Arthur A. Carter, Jr.
 Elizabeth Carter
 Robert A. Chase
 Raymond Dearden*
 Lawrence Delhagen*
 Stan Dimock
 Adrian B. Diorio
 Laura Freid
 Maureen Fogarty
 Clifford and Coleen Griffith

Gail A. Ginnetty
 John Kellam*
 Linda L. Kelly
 Sanne Kure-Jensen
 Christy Law Blanchard
 Rob and Peggy Leeson
 Ruth Mullen
 Rita Munzer*
 Alan D. Nathan
 Elsie Ridge *
 Jane Ridgway*
 Marion Sachs
 Sanford J. Sachs*
 Curt and Patrice Spalding
 Jonathan F. Stone
 Jean T. Timmons*

*deceased

*For more information
 about planned
 giving, please contact
 Maureen Fogarty at
 401-272-3540, x109
 or visit: [savebay.org/
 plannedgiving](http://savebay.org/plannedgiving)*



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Donor Support

To our donors:
Save The Bay is deeply grateful to the thousands of individuals, businesses, foundations and other organizations that generously support our work to protect and restore Narragansett Bay. In this report, we are pleased to recognize all those who gave \$250 or more during calendar year 2017. If you have been omitted or incorrectly listed, please accept our sincere apology and notify Jackie Carlson at 401-272-3540, ext 106. Thank you.

Individual Giving Societies

Ninigret Society \$75,000 and up

Gib and Diane Conover
 Ms. Elizabeth Prince

Prudence Society \$50,000 - \$74,999

Virginia and Alan Nathan
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Salem

Sakonnet Society \$25,000 - \$49,999

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn M.
 Creamer

Salt Pond Society \$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous
 Michael J. Blitzer
 Jeff and Abby Boal
 David Booth and
 Jane Garnett
 Laurie and Ruud Bosman
 Peter and Lucia Gill Case
 Stan Dimock
 Kate and Howard Kilguss
 Ms. Holly McAllister
 Lynne and Tim Palmer
 Craig Richardson and Sarah
 Beinecke Richardson
 Lucille Rossignol and
 Paul LaViolette
 Eric and Peggy Smith
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald J.
 Steiner

Brenton Reef Society \$5,000 - \$9,999

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 Laura and Mike Bottaro
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brewer
 Canepari Family Fund at the
 Rhode Island Foundation
 Barbara and Duncan
 Chapman
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W.
 Cummings
 Denise M. Dangremond
 Ms. Clover M. Drinkwater
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 Emma Clyde Hodge
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 Leatherman
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 Charles and Lory McCoy
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 David and Suzanne Morris
 Jeff and Mary Jane
 Rasmussen
 George M. and Barbara H.
 Sage Fund at the Rhode
 Island Foundation

George W. Shuster, Jr. and
 Stephanie L. Van Patten
 Jonathan F. Stone

Sachuest Society \$2,500 - \$4,999

Anonymous
 Joan and Richard Abrams
 Ms. April Bodman
 Mr. George T. Boyer
 Ms. Wendy H. Crandall and
 Mr. Chris A. D'Aguanno
 Mr. and Mrs. Eric D. Falk
 Imperial 718 Fund at the
 Rhode Island Foundation
 Chris and Sarah Lee
 Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Lenfest
 Mr. and Mrs. Raymond T.
 Mancini
 Lynn and Robert Manning
 Betsy and Clarke Moody
 Ruth Mullen
 Cathy and Jeff Siegal
 Mr. Samuel B. Slade
 and Ms. Susan Coughlin
 Rod and Natalie Wright
 Mary and Tot Wright

Beacon Society \$1,000 - \$2,499

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 Austin
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 Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Balloch
 Mr. Joseph Barry

Mr. William M. Bazy
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 Nick and Wendy Bowen
 Jacob Brown
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 Mrs. Kim N. Clark
 David and Judith Clark
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 Michelle Denault and
 Mark Palmer
 Justin and Kirstin DeShaw
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
 DiBattista
 Sandy and Tom Dimeo
 Ms. Louise Durfee
 Jack and Cathi Esselen
 Mr. William Falk
 Tom and Suzanne Ferrio
 Lawrence K. Fish
 Mr. Richard Fogarty
 Sara Foster
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen
 Geremia
 Mrs. Rhonda Germany
 Ballintyn

Bay Champions

Thank you to the following Bay Champions who have made an early gift or pledge to Save The Bay's 50th Anniversary Campaign:

Anonymous
 Joan and Richard Abrams
 Jeff and Abby Boal
 Laurie and Ruud Bosman
 Mike and Laura Bottaro
 Cynthia J. Butler
 The Champlin Foundation
 George L. Coleman
 Gib and Diane Conover
 James M. Cox Foundation
 Mr. and Mrs. Glenn M. Creamer
 Bud and Maureen Cummings
 The Norman and Rosalie Fain
 Family Foundation
 Gail A. Ginnetty
 Jenn Harris
 The Hassenfeld Family Foundation
 The Island Foundation
 John Kaplan
 Kate and Howard Kilguss
 Lucille Rossignol and Paul LaViolette
 Chris and Sarah Lee
 The Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust
 Eugene and Bronwyn McDermott
 F. Paul Mooney, Jr.
 Ruth K. Mullen (in memory of Jim Mullen)
 Alan and Virginia Nathan
 Dr. Andrew and Cheryl Nathanson
 Tim and Lynne Palmer
 Aidan and Kate Petrie
 Warren and Deborah Prell
 Prince Charitable Trusts
 The Prospect Hill Foundation
 REI
 Craig Richardson and
 Sarah Beinecke Richardson
 Ed and Cindy Sabato
 George W. Shuster, Jr. and
 Stephanie L. Van Patten
 Sharpe Family Foundation
 Jonathan F. Stone
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 Alisson Walsh and Adam Braver

Mr. and Mrs. Steven B.
 Gewirz
 Robert H. I. Goddard and
 Hope Drury Goddard
 Fund at the Rhode Island
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 Bill and Maureen Goldfarb
 Mr. and Mrs. Clifford F.
 Griffith
 Elizabeth and Nicholas
 Grumbach
 Mrs. Alexis Hafken
 Ms. Charlotte Harvey
 Peter and Elaine Hess
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard A.
 Higginbotham
 Dr. Christopher S. Hill
 Drs. Jennifer Hosmer
 and Brad Miller
 Mr. Leonard Johnson
 The Edward W. Kane
 and Martha J. Wallace
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 Mr. Leslie M. Kenney
 Dr. Audrey Kupchan
 and Sam Havens
 Laird Norton Family Fund
 Brooke and Eugene Lee
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 Stanley & Martha Livingston
 Fund at the Rhode Island
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 and Ms. Kathryn P. Martin
 Scott and Laura Malkin
 Frederick R. Mattis
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 Mr. and Mrs. Terrence P.
 Moran
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 Jeff and Jessica Nathan
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 Mr. Edward Nelson
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 Nancy Safer
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 Dr. Patrice Milos-Spalding
 Mr. John S. Struck and
 Mrs. Beatriz Struck
 Ms. Mildred H. Struck
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 Dr. Elizabeth M. Sutton
 Anne and Michael Szostak
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 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vincent
 Mr. Andrew Wallerstein
 and Ms. Mary C. Sloane
 Mr. Kenneth W. Washburn
 Mr. and Mrs. Bernard M.
 Wharton
 Ms. Deborah Wiley
 Mr. and Mrs. Harrison M.
 Wright
 John and Christine Zitzmann

Hope Society \$500 - \$999

Anonymous (4)
 Dr. Julian N. Abuelo and
 Dr. Dianne N. Abuelo
 Mr. Robert Allio
 Mr. Ronald Archambault
 Dianne Arrigoni
 Lisa and Dean Audet
 Dr. Richard Baker and
 Mrs. Barbara Lloyd Baker
 Connie Ballmer
 Ms. Kendra Beaver and
 Mr. David Hanrahan
 Mr. and Mrs. William P.
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Thank You

The Bernadette and Douglas Bernon Charitable Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Black
Sylvia Blake
Mr. Jeffrey R. Blease
Ms. Frances Booth
Mr. and Mrs. Blair Boyer
Mr. Alan D. Brier
Tim and Lorrie Burns
Mr. and Mrs. Sherburne W. Cameron
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Chris Cannon and Carol Hopkins
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David Reville and Tina Tryforos
Charles and Mary Beth Riotto
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Barbara and Allen P. Rubine
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Dr. Mark Vogt
Audrey Weil
Mr. Austin Whitman
Mrs. Dudley A. Williams
James and Kate Wright

Salt Marsh Society \$250 - \$500

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Michael and Kirstin Allio
Mr. Berndt W. Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. David C. Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Andreozzi
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Andrew Blazar
Mr. Danny Bliss
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Gabby Brzozowski
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Steven Carlino
Ms. Patrice A. Carroll
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Wayne Daniel
Frank and Hope Darigan
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"Save The Bay is so important to learn about so that we can save the animals and not have them go extinct. If you litter, then the water goes to the Bay with trash and the animals could die. That makes me so sad because I love the Bay and all the animals!"

~ Jyra, Grade 3, Fogarty Elementary School

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"The day we swim across the Bay is the most important date on my summer calendar...because the water is crystal clear, warm, and who wouldn't want to swim across the Bay, under the bridge just after sunrise with hundreds of other like-minded creatures?"

*~ Onne van der Wal,
10-year Save The Bay swimmer*



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*"I think we need to change our attitudes towards everyday trash
consumption. While leading cleanups, I realized how almost all of the
trash we collected consisted of single-use products. Participating in
the International Coastal Cleanup allowed me to recognize
how my own attitudes and actions need to adapt in order to
be part of the change I want to see."*

~ Alexis Dorman, Salty Brine and Point Judith cleanups

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"It's a sense of place...Thousands of kids on the water, Save The Bay is forging into the future, building new advocates. It's an intentional sense of improving the lives of everybody in the watershed, in this state, and in the region of New England."

~ Kate Kilguss, 2017



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Seagrass Society

Plan Your Legacy for Narragansett Bay

Y*OU can make a lasting impact on Narragansett Bay by remembering Save The Bay in your will.*

Your bequest will forever protect and improve the Bay by supporting Save The Bay's restoration, advocacy and educational programs. Final gifts by will or trust, in any dollar amount, have a lasting effect on our Bay for future generations.

Seagrass Society members are united in their desire to positively impact the future of Narragansett Bay.

To learn more about joining Save The Bay's Seagrass Society, contact Maureen Fogarty at 401-272-3540, x109 or mfogarty@savebay.org or visit savebay.org/seagrasssociety



"Save The Bay's focus has always been to protect Narragansett Bay. Leaving money to Save The Bay ensures the financial viability of the only organization focused on preserving this natural resource for future generations to enjoy."

*~ Virginia and Alan Nathan,
Seagrass Society members*

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