New York Coastal Resilience Law & Policy Fellowship
Class of 2021

Communities situated along the coast are exposed to a host of unique natural, ecological, and manmade concerns which impact their shorelines, economies and residents. Communities can use law and policy to increase their resilience—socially and ecologically as well as physically.

New York Sea Grant (NYSG) built a NY Coastal Resilience Law & Policy Program utilizing funds from two Legal Capacity Building grants from the National Sea Grant Law Center and NYSG Program Development dollars. In 2021, NYSG, in collaboration with University at Buffalo School of Law, the Elizabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University, and the City University of New York Law School and Center for Urban Environmental Reform, held its second summer fellowship program.

Resources Assist New York State’s Great Lakes and New York City Communities, and Tribal Nations
Three NY Coastal Resilience Law & Policy Program Law Fellows, one from each participating school, worked with a NYSG extension specialist on a project specific to each Fellow’s chosen geography and local community needs. The students’ contributions included a permitting flow chart for communities to use when working along New York’s Great Lakes shoreline, a story map of nuisance flooding sites in New York City with information on which agency to call for assistance, and a white paper for NYSG staff to use to help deepen understanding of the law as it pertains to Tribal Nations and environmental justice.

Project Partners:
• City University of New York Law School and Center for Urban Environmental Reform
• Elizabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University
• University at Buffalo School of Law

New York Sea Grant partnered with three law schools to create a fellowship program that provides law students with an opportunity to apply their legal skills to inform products needed by local communities and for NYSG staff to use to increase coastal community resilience.

NYSG Focus Areas: Resilient NY Communities & Economies, Environmental Literacy & Workforce Development

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.
Contact: New York Sea Grant Extension, 112 Rice Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853; www.nyseagrant.org.

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