

# Hudson River Tributaries

The lower half of the Hudson River, below Troy (approximately 153 miles) is an estuary where freshwater from over 60 tributary streams is met by salty seawater being pushed upriver by the ocean tides. On average, the salt front reaches the Tappan Zee, but in times of drought, salinity in the river's water can be detected as far north as Poughkeepsie.

Streams provide freshwater and vital nutrients to the mainstem of the river forming the basis of the estuary's food chains. Where tributaries meet the river are often important habitat areas for fish and wildlife. Polluted streams harm habitats, the river's water quality and recreational uses.



The quality of our river depends on healthy streams throughout the Hudson's drainage basin. Take time to learn about the streams in your community and how you can help protect them.

