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CITY PARKS FOUNDATION'S COASTAL CLASSROOM AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM RETURNS FOR SPRING 2026 REGISTRATION OPEN NOW FOR FREE, HANDS-ON MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AT DYCKMAN MARINA, HALLETT'S COVE, AND MORE ACROSS NYC



New York, NY (March 2, 2026) — City Parks Foundation is welcoming young people across NYC to explore New York City's waterfront through hands-on learning and outdoor adventure. The free Coastal Classroom Afterschool Program is returning this spring, and applications are now open for middle school students in Inwood Hill in upper Manhattan, Hallett's Cove in Queens, and more. Information about additional Coastal Classroom Afterschool sites can be found [here](#).

The programs run through June, meeting Tuesdays at Dyckman Marina (348 Dyckman Street, New York, NY) and Mondays at Hallett's Cove Beach (31-10 Vernon Boulevard, Queens, NY) from 3PM - 5:30PM. Students are encouraged to apply now to be part of this exciting spring session.

Coastal Classroom invites young people to become active participants in New York City's marine ecosystem. Through engaging, experiential activities along the waterfront, students gain a deeper

understanding of water ecology, water quality, urban waterfront restoration, and environmental preservation — all while building confidence and teamwork skills.

Participants will:

- Explore the animals, fish, and plants that live in NYC's waterways
- Learn to row a boat with trained instructors
- Try rod-and-reel fishing
- Work together on real-world science experiments
- Discover how to help protect and preserve our coasts and waterways
- And much more

The program **offers a unique opportunity for students** to transform their local waterfront into an outdoor classroom. By blending environmental science with recreation and exploration, Coastal Classroom sparks curiosity and inspires the next generation of environmental stewards.

Space is limited, and families are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

For more information and to apply, please visit: <https://cityparksfoundation.org/coastal-classroom/> or contact: ddonaghy@cityparksfoundation.org.

About City Parks Foundation

At City Parks Foundation, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community engagement and capacity building, and environmental education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs -- located in 330 parks, recreation centers and public schools across New York City -- reach nearly 300,000 people and organizations each year. Our ethos is simple: thriving parks mean thriving communities.

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