THE RESERVE'S ROLE IN NJ COASTAL RESILIENCE

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NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT. Locally RELEVANT.
WE ARE A SENTINEL SITE.
DATA AND MONITORING TO APPLIED DECISION MAKING
Assess
Evaluate Your Municipal Risks and Vulnerabilities

Plan
Utilize Getting to Resilience to Plan for the Future

Implement
Take Actions to Increase Municipal Preparedness
THE NEXT GENERATION
Summary

After Post-Tropical Cyclone Sandy, municipalities in increasing numbers started looking for ways to make their communities more resilient. The Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve has helped over 30 municipalities in coastal New Jersey thus far by developing maps and information materials, facilitating meetings with local government staff members, and writing up the results in the form of community recommendations. The reserve staff members involved with this project say one of the most essential skills in working with communities is to be seen as a trusted source and be willing to listen and help facilitate the discussions.

“We are there to help them have the conversation and think about the future.”

- Lisa Auermuller, Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve

Lessons Learned

- **Building resilience is not a quick process**, and nothing about working with municipalities ever happens quickly. It is about relationships and trust building.
- **Resilience to coastal hazards is just one of the facets of resilience building**. There are other aspects of resilience that will have to be considered as well, such as population growth and development pressures.
"PEOPLE PROTECT WHAT THEY LOVE, THEY LOVE WHAT THEY UNDERSTAND AND THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY ARE TAUGHT."
– JACQUES-YVES COUSTEAU,