MyCoast New York Newsletter

October 2026

Sea Grant NEW YORK

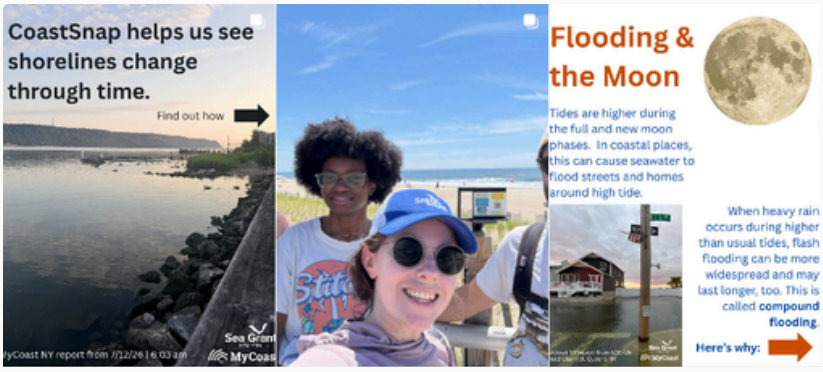
NEW YORK STATE WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Inside this issue

1. Eye on Central NY Flooding
2. Eight New CoastSnap Stations
3. Why MyCoast NY Matters: An Interview with NWS Meteorologist Nelson Vaz

Find us on Instagram @MyCoastNY

We're happy to share that MyCoast NY is now on Instagram! Follow us @mycoastny for information about flooding, shoreline change, and marine debris—as well as highlights of reports from MyCoast NY users across the state.



Flooding can happen anywhere, anytime.

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30. 2026 is on track to be less active than normal despite warm temperatures in the Atlantic, due to El Nino conditions. Read more about the 2026 Hurricane Season.

Coastal and Estuarine Communities

Dates for possible high tide flooding this fall according to NOAA's Monthly High Tide Flood Outlook at the Battery tide gauge in New York, NY are:

Oct 25-30 ○ **Dec 22-26** ○
Nov 24 -26 ○

The highest tides typically occur each month during the new ● and full ○ moon. More severe flooding may occur if high tides coincide with heavy rains, strong winds, or large waves.

Great Lakes and Finger Lakes

- Precipitation moves through the watershed in different ways, and it doesn't always flood where it rains.
- Monitor water levels with the NOAA Great Lakes Water Level Dashboard.

https://mycoast.org/ny

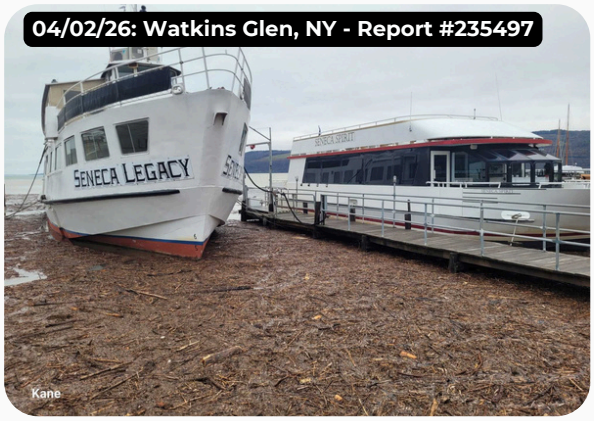
Follow us @mycoastny

Eye on Central NY

MyCoast New York

Central and Western NY experienced a very wet spring this year—much of the region saw almost twice the normal precipitation. The Auburn National Weather Service Station recorded 8.20 inches of precipitation in April—the second highest for the month in 30 years, preceded by the wettest March on record for that same period.







"In April, almost all MyCoast FloodWatch and StormReporter reports came from **Central and Western NY**, with the majority of these reports coming **from Seneca Lake or Cross Lake** and adjacent areas.

CNY Waterways—formerly the Cross Lake and Seneca River Association—promotes the use of MyCoast NY as a way to make a difference with flooding in their region. **The Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association** also promotes MyCoast NY to "spread awareness and keep others on the lake safe."

Reports from this area observed that it was the "(w)orst since the Fall of 2021" (Report #234252) and that "(r)esidents (were) flooded out of their homes" (Report #234291). A report from Geneva (#235391) said, "(w)e have lived here 25 years and have never experienced so much damage from the lake level being (s)o high."

Learn more:

- https://cnywaterways.org/cny-flooding/
- https://senecalake.org/seneca-lake-water-level-condition/
- https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=bgm

CoastSnap Updates

MyCoast New York

Eight New CoastSnap Stations in NY State

CoastSnap stations are designated sites where users can take and upload the same photograph over time allowing to capture shoreline change.

Thanks to funding from the U.S. Coastal Research Program, NYSG was able to work with partners to implement **eight new CoastSnap stations**. The new stations are at natural or nature-based features (i.e., living shoreline) sites and will assist with monitoring these innovative shoreline management solutions.

NYSG also worked with the Montauk Beach Property Owners Association and Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Studies to install two new CoastSnap stations in Montauk.

Soon, CoastSnap will expand along the South Shore of Long Island thanks to funding from SSER, and we are also in talks with Orient Beach State Park to add three new locations. **If you are interested in implementing a CoastSnap location in your community, get in touch!**



Learn more at the MyCoast NY CoastSnap page!

Partner Interview

MyCoast New York

Nelson Vaz - National Weather Service (NWS)

We spoke with Nelson Vaz, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service New York Forecast Office, about the value of MyCoast NY for their flood prediction work in the state.

Why are photos so important for NWS?
Ground truthing is the key to us. Photos really help us get an understanding of what the actual real-world impacts are in locations where we are experiencing weather. The time, location, geotags, and annotation included in MyCoast NY metadata is also really important, not just for situational awareness, but for timely and accurate watches, warnings, and advisories. We also use this data it for forecast validation, impact catalogue development, and refinement of alerting thresholds.

Can you talk about whether and how MyCoast NY has influenced some of the forecasting products that are issued by NWS?
Along the Hudson River, a lot of locations see coastal flood impacts as storm surge travels up river—not just places near a tide gauge, like Piermont. MyCoast NY gives us important information about how expansive the flood impacts really are up and downstream during an event. We were able to use that information to refine our flood thresholds and expand our flood alerting operations up the Hudson River, serving vulnerable areas that are historically outside the coastal flood warning area.

What could MyCoast users keep in mind that would make the photos more useful to NWS?
We are just appreciative of the pictures! Using the MyCoast NY app is ideal, because all metadata is useful to us, too. It's difficult to get all the information we need from pictures on social media, because the exact location or time might not be recorded. If you are in the area and you are in a safe place, we really appreciate MyCoast NY reports.



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weather.gov/okx/

Partner Interview

MyCoast New York

Nelson Vaz - National Weather Service

Are there areas where increasing local use of MyCoast would be helpful to NWS?

- **Freshwater street flooding.** Not just along rivers and streams, but urban flooding—that is very helpful for our flash flood warning operations.
- **North Shore of Long Island**, which doesn't see as frequent or widespread impacts as southern portions of Long Island, but scattered impacts to shoreline roads and infrastructure, and along tidal estuaries and harbors and marinas can be quite significant during more intense storm events. Beach erosion is a problem there as well.
- We have a new gauge in the **Rye-Mamaroneck area**, so more observations in that area would help validate and refine our initial flood thresholds there, which feed into improving our watch-warning-advisory process.
- Pictures of other types of storm damage from winds, hail, wintry precipitation, etc. are also very useful for our severe and winter weather warning operations. Storm Reporter seems to be an ideal capability for this on MyCoast.





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