

NYSG is partnering on a series of Climate Forums to help New York City coastal communities in vulnerable areas.



First Climate Forum Held for NYC Coastal Communities

New York Sea Grant has a successful record of bringing together diverse groups of people, ranging from community members and scientists to public agencies, for information and resource sharing, and discussion related to diverse coastal issues, including climate and climate preparedness. This type of interaction is empowering communities to become aware of climate-related coastal events and to plan and prepare for future events.

Climate Forum Series Initiated in 2016

On November 1, 2016, New York Sea Grant, the Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay, and the Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast held the first in a series of Climate Forums sharing climate-related information and resources to help New York City coastal communities in vulnerable areas.

The Climate Forums series brought climate experts together with local decision-makers and community members to share perspectives and values as well as climate-related information and resources.

This first Climate Forum event, held in Brooklyn, focused on the end of the hurricane season and the transition into the Nor'easter season. Each member of a panel of experts, including scientists, weather-forecasters, and emergency managers, had a resource table to provide information.

More than 30 people attended the event. Pre-forum survey results revealed attendees' neighborhoods of residence, how they gather information about severe weather events, and their level of preparation for a severe weather.

In a post-forum survey, more than 75% of attendees stated they had gained a better understanding of New York City's climate and the resources to look for in case of a severe weather event; more than 70% stated the information presented increased their preparedness for such an event. A general consensus



Climate Forum panelists shared climate-related resources, tools, and information with attendees. Photo: Jessica Fain, Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay.

indicated that the most helpful aspects of the forum were the presentations by researchers and experts offering perspectives and knowledge and bringing science into action.

Partners:

- Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay
- Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast
- National Weather Service: Weather Forecasting Office, Upton
- New York Aquarium
- New York Emergency Management
- Stevens Institute of Technology

The Sea Grant Focus Area for this project is New York Resilient Communities & Economies

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.

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